

ESTABLISHED 1859.

Subscription, 10/- a Year, Post Free to any part of the World. Single Numbers, 4d. per copy. Summer and Winter Numbers, 1/- each

In our recently re-arranged offices we have made provision of a floor with desks, works of reference, and a file of The CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST for the convenience of subscribers to this journal, especially for those resident abroad or in the provinces when they may be visiting London on business.

Catalogues and price-lists issued by houses connected with the talogues and price-lists issued by houses connected with the drug-trade are kept on file, and may be consulted; and we also suggest that this provision may be useful to employers who may wish for a central place to meet assistants whom they wish to see before engaging. We have also a room capable of accommodating twenty or thirty persons which we shall be glad to lend free for suitable trademeetings; but we shall be obliged if subscribers who wish to avail themselves of the latter offer will advise the Publisher in advance. The Catalogues can be consulted any day from 10 AM. to 4 P.M. and on Saturdays we any day from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M., and on Saturdays up till 12.30.

Postal Orders and Oheques to be crossed "MARTIN'S BANK (LIMITED)." CHIEF OFFICES: 42 CANNON STREET, LONDON, E.O. BRANCH OFFICES: MELBOURNE AND SYDNEY.

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OUR NEW DIARY.

HOME subscribers will receive their copies of the 1900 DIARY during next week. It will be observed that each contains a coupon for a competition in which 10l, 10s. will be awarded in prizes. The competition is open to any subscriber, but the coupon may be transferred to any member of his family or business staff. The prizes will be awarded to the competitors whose votes on the following questions most nearly approximate to the general opinion:

- 1. What is the best speciality title mentioned in the DIARY advertisements?
- 2. Which association or society mentioned on pp. 276-277 has your greatest sympathy?
- 3. Mention the article in the Buyers' Guide (pp. 195-208) most prescribed by doctors in your district.

 4. Vote for the best advertisement (small or large) in the
- DIARY.
 - 5. What side-line advertised in the DIARY do you like best? 6. Which is the best-designed advertisement in the DIARY?

We trust that there will be a quick response from all parts of the world.

Summary.

Some facts about the forthcoming German Pharmacopæia are given on p. 915.

COMPANY-PHARMACY takes up a large part of our space this week (pp. 901 to 905).

WE report upon a score of meetings which have been held in the provinces, and at which resolutions have been passed.

E are informed by the Secretary of the Federation that resolutions from nearly sixty towns have been received, and are to be forwarded to the Pharmaceutical Council.

IN AN EDITORIAL NOTE we indicate that it is remotely possible that the Pharmaceutical Council will come to any resolution on the subject next week (p. 912).

THE paper set in visual optics at the Spectacle-makers examination are given on p. 921.

SHEEP-SCAB is the subject of an official circular which veterinary chemists should get (p. 915).

THE GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL is in session, and the proceedings so far are reported on p. 915.

THE OPTICAL SOCIETY held their first soirée and exhibit on Tuesday. We give particulars on p. 921.

BUSINESS is very quiet in wholesale and Mincing Lane circles this week, and there are no first-class changes to report (p. 925).

AT THE EVENING MEETING of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland this week several useful dispensing-problems were discussed (p. 898).

PORTRAITS of Mr. Mee, Wellington, NZ., Mr. Prosser Davies, and Mr. Hargreaves are given on p. 894, and M. Leon Becquet's on p. 893.

THE Chairman of the North British Branch and his predecessor are supporters of the division of the Minor suggestion (p. 897).

OHEMISTS have been festive during this week; we chronicle concerts or dinners in London, Manchester, Sheffield, and Leicester (p 923).

A LIST OF PERSONS who will be struck off the register unless they communicate with the Registrar before December 30 is given on p. 920.

M. LEON BECQUET, of Brussels, the originator of an ingenious scheme of co-operative wholesale trading, is endeavouring to get the scheme adopted in this country (p. 896).

AT A MEETING of the members of the London Commercial Sale-rooms on Monday it was announced that the special Mincing Lane list in aid of the Trausvaal War Fund amounted to 11,160l. (p. 922).

MR. N. H. MARTIN has addressed the Society of Chemical Industryat Newcastle on education and competition, showing that the industrial position of this country is not inferior to those of Germany and America (p. 913).

MR. CLARIDGE DRUCE objects to the too scientific nature of the pharmaceutical examinations. He spoke of the matter fully in an address to the students of the Metropolitan College of Pharmacy, reported on p. 895.

SEVERAL CHEMISTS AND AERATED-WATER MANUFAC-TURERS have been fined at Swindon for selling potash-water either destitute of potash or containing less than the labels stated. The cases are reported on p. 906.

THE SALE OF NICOTINE CONTAINING insecticides has been held by the Lord Mayor of London to be a sale of a poisonous vegetable alkaloid, and a seedsman who sold the preparation has been fined under the Pharmacy Act (p. 909).

THE SALE OF ECBOLICS has had a sharp check by the conviction of persons who sold the "Madams Frain" medi cines, one person getting twelve months' and two nine months' imprisonment (p. 890). We comment upon the difficulties in the sale of such medicines (p. 914).

English Mews.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

To Analyse the Water supply.

At a meeting of the Maidstone Town Council on November 22, Dr. Pye Oliver, medical officer of health, was recommended for appointment as analyst of the public watersupplies, at a salary of 150½ per annum. It was stated that Dr. M. A. Adams, late medical officer, would continue to act as borough analyst under the Food and Drugs Act. A member protested against the appointment, on the ground that in no year had anything like 150½ been paid for analysing the water, but the appointment of Dr. Oliver was decided upon.

The Analyst a First-class Man.

At a meeting of the Wilts County Council on November 22, a committee recommended that the county analyst should be allowed a guinea a day for compulsory attendance as a witness at any prosecution under the Food and Drugs Act, together with first-class train-fare. One member failed to see why the county analyst should be allowed first-class railway-fare while members of the County Council travelled second-class; but Alderman C. E. Hobhouse informed him that the analyst was a gentleman well known in his profession who ought to be allowed to travel in ease and comfort. The committee's recommendation was carried.

The Salt-combine.

Another meeting of manufacturers interested in the proposed salt-combination was held at Liverpool on November 22 and was attended by representatives of all the firms in Oreshire, Staffordshire, Worcestershire, Lancashire, and the North-Eastern Salt Union. It was officially reported that every difficulty in the way of forming the combination (which is to be known as the British Salt Association, and is for the purpose of regulating prices of the entire trade of the United Kingdom) has been overcome. The only outstanding firm is the Barrow Salt Company, whose decision will, however, not prevent the actual accomplishment of the amalgamation. A resolution was unanimously passed agreeing to maintain the present enhanced prices till the end of the year.

Chemical-workers Strike

About 100 workmen employed at the Castner-Kellner Chemical Company's Works, Weston Poirt, came out on strike last week, owing to an alleged increase of duties coupled with a reduction of wages. The firm refused to listen to the representations of the men after they had struck, but promised to consider the matter if they would resume work. The men eventually agreed to commence operations under the new conditions for a month, and at the end of that period a conference will be held.

The "Madame Frain" Case.

At the Central Criminal Court, on November 25, William Brown, Abraham Emanuel Abrahams, Harriet Annie Cross, Phillip Perron, and James Armitage Fox were found guilty of conspiring to ircite women to commit a felonious offence. Mr. Justice Darling, in pronouncing sentence, said he was afraid the offence was very common on the part of those who had escaped punishment. It was a very serious offence, and an illegal, disgusting, nefarious, and dangerous business. He had consulted the Lord Chief Justice, who desired him to say that he fully concurred in the sentence of twelve months' imprisonment for Brown, and nine months each for Fox and Abrahams. Perron and the woman Cross would be bound over He desired to say further that this crime had been rendered possible because newspapers accepted advertisements of this illegal business. It should be known that anyone who incited, by whatever means, another to commit a crime himself committed a crime, and the jury had found in fact by their verdict that these advertisements were incitements, by the men on whom he had passed sentence, to the crime of abortion. If any of these advertisements or anything

like them, appeared again—if any advertisements which a jury should think incited to this or other crime should appear—the proprietors, editors, and printers of the newspapers making them public would find themselves—if any words of his had any effect on the Treasury—in the dock; and if a jury should find them guilty they would probably receive a more severe sentence than he had passed on those prisoners.

The Patent-medicine Question.

On November 24 a lecture was delivered by Dr. Farrow, at the Cleckheaton Liberal Club, on "Patent Medicines." The lecturer said the patent medicine, so-called, was not a patent at all. All one had to do to produce a so-called patent medicine was to get a gross or two of bottles, fill them with anything, call them anything, and profess they would do anything, and put a $1\frac{1}{2}d$. stamp on every shilling bottle. They might even fill the bottles with ink, and profess it would stop eartbquakes. To prevent the public being defrauded, as he asserted they were, the doctor considered that a law should be passed compelling proprietors of a patent medicine to state clearly on the bottle its composition and the amount of its active ingredients, and that its sale should be restricted to chemists. The lecturer severely criticised various patent medicines, some of which he described as being really dangerous, whilst others contained no drugs whatever. One, a foreign remedy, which sold at 3s. 6d. for a $\frac{3}{4}$ oz bottle, contained, he said, ordinary tap-water only. In conclusion, the lecturer impressed upon his hearers that the chief injury done by the use of patent medicines was in occasioning sometimes a fatal delay in the proper treatment of serious ailments.

What was the "Patent"?

An inquest was held at the Greenwich Workhouse on November 23 regarding the death of James Halfpenny (60), one of the inmates. Dr. Wiggins, assistant medical officer at the infirmary, stated that the deceased had got hold of a bottle of patent medicine (the name of which was not mentioned), and had swallowed the whole of its contents, with the result that death ensued owing to syncope brought on by intestinal obstruction following strangulated hernia. The patent medicine acting upon Halfpenny while he was in this condition had killed him. There was a good deal of comment by the jury and Coroner on the extraordinary occurrence, but they managed, while discussing the affair, to skilfully conceal the name of the medicine.

The Policeman and the Pill.

Last week at Exeter a young woman named Ball tried to swallow a pill, which, however, stuck in the trachea. Police-constable Broad, who has recently gone through a course of ambulance-lectures, was called in, and when he arrived the woman was black in the face, rigid, and unconscious. The constable promptly used the means which he had been taught in such cases, and the obstructing pill was dislodged.

Should be Registered.

At an inquiry held at Devonport on November 27, touching the death of a woman named Jarvis, it transpired that deceased had taken a quantity of spirit of salt. She told the police-constable that she had obtained the spirit of salt some time before, and that the poison was not registered, whereupon the Coroner remarked, "All such poisons should be registered."

Taking Laudanum.

At Southampton Police Court on November 27, an elderly man named Tomlins was charged with having attempted to commit suicide by drinking laudanum. He was found in an unconscious state on a seat on the Common, and beside him were a bottle and cup which had contained a quantity of laudanum. Evidence was given by Mr. Herbert Ferryman, chemist, Belvidere Road, who said that the label on the bottle produced was his, but he could not remember selling such a large quantity to anyone. Mr. W. B. Randall, J.P. (of Randall & Son, pharmaceutical chemists), gave evidence of the excellent character of the accused, who had been in his employ for some years. Accused was remanded.

A Chemist's Widow's Death.

At Hemel Hempstead, on November 25 an inquiry was held concerning the death of Mrs. Annie Walters (59), who

was found poisoned at the residence of her son-in-law, Captain Gray. Her daughter, Mrs. Gray, stated that deceased had been in a state of acute grief since the death of her husband, who was a chemist, in August last. She came to the house on the morning of her death, and acted in a very peculiar manner, refusing to allow witness to remain with her. She was found dying the next morning, death being ascribed to laudanum-poisoning.

Commercial Museums Commended.

On November 27, Mr. Henry Sell, the well-known advertising-agent entertained a company of business men to dinner at the First Avenue Hotel, High Holborn. Mr. Sell has just returned from the United States, and gave a descriptive account of the Commercial Congress which he recently attended in Philadelphia. He expressed his opinion that such institutions as that of the Philadelphia Commercial Museums, if established in London would be of the greatest advantage to British merchants and manufacturers.

Fire.

A copper of wax that boiled over in the melting-mills of Messrs. Kenwin & Co., wax-melters, Stratford, on November 27, set the whole range of buildings on fire. The entire factory was demolished, and four houses in the rear were badly damaged, before the flames were got under.

Athletics.

Inter-Pharmacy Football League.—Muter's F.O. v. West-minster College F.C.—Played at Shepherd's Bush on November 25, and resulted in a win for Muter's by 10 goals to 1.

Wholesale Chemists' and Druggists' Cricket Championship.
—The Secretary (Mr. E. Sibley, 64 Park Street, Southwark, S.E.) desires us to intimate that cricket clubs connected with London wholesale drug-houses desiring to enter for the championship should communicate with him.

Food-preservatives.

The Departmental Committee inquiring into preservatives and colouring-matters in food took further evidence on November 24. Dr. Alfred Hill said that in Birmingham, out of 1,537 samples 135, or 9 per cent., contained either boric acid or formaldehyde. Boric acid was a drug and required regulation. Boric acid had been put into pure milk in the same quantities as used by the ordinary consumer and given to a kitten, which got lighter and lighter, and in about five weeks it died, so that there could be no doubt as to the physiological effects of the drug. The use of boric acid in milk was on the decrease, and its place was being taken by formaldehyde, which was a still more potent drug. The latter was certainly injurious to health, for it hardened the albuminous matters and made them more difficult of digestion. Dr. Cameron, Medical Officer of Health for Leeds, said diarrhœa was very prevalent in Leeds amongst infants, and had been on the increase of late years, and this he thought might be owing to the great increase of preservatives.

Wouldn't Sell.

At Folkestone Police Court on November 24, Daisy Winn and Wm. Richards, a little girl and boy, were charged with stealing twenty-six boxes of vaseline and sixty boxes of pills from the shop of Mr. W. Tappenden, drysalter, Folkestone. The youthful delinquents tried to sell their haul by shouting "Pills!" in the street, but failed to dispose of them. They then threw the pills down a drain, and the boxes of vaseline back into the shop. The girl was bound over under the First Offenders Act, and the lad was ordered to be birched.

Alleged Fraud.

At Marylebone Police Court on November 25, Charles Brown (28) was charged with, amongst other things, obtaining 5l. by means of a worthless cheque from Parkes' Drug Stores (Limited), 316 High Road, Kilburn, with intent to defraud. From the evidence it appeared that on October 25 the prisoner stopped a lad named Blair in the High Road, Kilburn, and gave him a note to take to Parkes' drug-stores, asking him to take the parcel he would receive in return to Dr. Tilley, 10 Garlinge Road. The note contained a cheque on Parr's Bank for 15l., a note purporting to be signed by Dr.

Tilley requesting that it might be changed. Dr. Tilley having had commercial transactions with the stores, the lad was given 5l. and a note to the effect that the balance of the 15l. could be had the next day. As the lad was making his way to Dr. Tilley's the prisoner overtook him, took the money from him, and gave him 6l. for his trouble. Further evidence on other charges having been given, prisoner was remanded.

Charge of Stealing.

At Hull Police Court on November 24, Alfred Lumley and William Flynn were again charged with stealing a quantity of goods, the property of their employers, Messrs. W. Cussons (Limited), grocers and druggists, Hull. Previous mention of the case will be found in the C. & D., November 11,

page 777.

For the prosecution it was stated that Flynn was the manager of the drug-department of Messrs. Cussons's stores, and had power to order, but not to sell, goods, except over the counter. He had actually dealt with a Mr. Anderson, however, for over twelve months, and in May last suggested to Anderson that he should advertise in various drug papers, and thereby get rid of goods with which Flynn should supply him at from 25 to 30 per cent. dis-count below Foggitt's list. No invoice was given for any of the goods supplied to Anderson, neither was any record kept in the prosecutors' books. For some reason Flynn was dismissed, and after that Anderson received similar goods from Lumley. Suspicions were aroused; Lumley was interviewed by prosecutors' manager (Mr. W. H. Dyer), who stopped the errand-boy taking goods to Anderson. A letter was then sent by Lumley, through Flynn, to Anderson, stating that the boy had been stopped and advising him to say that no money had been paid and he would "square up later." Flynn suggested that Anderson should make out a duplicate order for the goods and put it underneath the door of the prosecutors' shop. The value of the missing stock amounted to over 2001.

George William Anderson, chemist and druggist, Derringham Street, Hull, admitted having received large quantities of goods, some of which he had re-sold, from Flynn, but had never had any receipt for money paid. Flynn used to allow him a discount of 25 per cent, below trade prices. On October 31 he received the following letter from Lumley:—

Make contra account big. Boy has been followed and stopped by W. H. D. Say no money has been paid. Square up with W. H. D. when he comes round. Be on your guard.

Prisoners were remanded for seven days.

[Mr. Anderson writes to us denying statements made by the prosecuting counsel in respect to him.—Ed.]

The Manufacture of Coloured Fires.

An inquest was held at Hackney, on November 27, on the body of Cubitt Page, aged 5 years, who was fatally injured by an explosion of fireworks at Dalston (see C. & D., November 11, page 776). Leo Achille Estival, a clerk, stated that he made a quantity of "coloured fires," the materials being purchased through a friend from Messrs. Burgoyne Burbidges & Co., Coleman Street, E.C. The fires were composed of chlorate of potash, powdered chalk, sulphur, steel shavings, and sulphate of baryta. He was not a chemist, but was a student of chemistry, and had a slight knowledge of chemicals. He was not aware that what he did was illegal, as he had often prepared the same mixture in France. There were two bags, each containing ½ lb. of the mixture, in a box and a few tins. The witness stooped to reach one of the tins from the box, and had scarcely turned his back when there was a loud explosion, the witness being wounded in the thigh. Captain Arthur Desborough, one of her Majesty's Inspectors of Explosives, stated that he had examined the mixture, and found it to contain chlorate of potash and sulphur. This was an illegal explosive, and was calculated to ignite spontaneously. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death. Captain Lloyd (who appeared for the Home Office) remarked that Estival was legally responsible for the explosion and its effects, and Mr. Spencer (for the L.C.C.) stated that Estival would be prosecuted. With regard to the question as to how Estival obtained the chemicals from Burgoyne's, he was of opinion that Messrs. Burgoyne were not aware of the fact, and that probably it was an illegal sale by an employé unknown to the firm.

Manx Pharmacy Bill.

The Manx Legislative Council on November 28 passed the Pharmacy Bill to which reference was made in our last week's issue (page 865).

Advertising a New Branch.

On November 23, the proprietors of Taylors' Drug Company (Limited) signalised the establishment of a new branch at 13 Market Place, Ripon, by giving a tea and entertainment in the Victoria Hall. Over 200 invitations were extended to old people for the meal, and the entertainment which followed included a kinematograph exhibition illustrative of the departure of Sir Redvers Buller and the troops for South Africa. Upwards of 2,000 tickets for the entertainment were issued.

Assaulting a Chemist.

At the Lambeth Police Court on November 27 a cabman named Smith was charged with an unprovoked assault upon a chemist named Nash. The prosecutor said he was walking along Clapham Road, when the accused struck him a blow with a stick and ran away. The Magistrate imposed a fine of 40s. and costs, or one month.

Students Visiting.

On November 22 the students of the Sheffield College of Pharmacy, with the Principal (Mr. J. W. J. Tarner, Ph.C.), visited the Milton Cutlery-works of Messrs. Atkinson Brothers (Limited). The visitors were much interested in the various processes for spinning of Britannia metal into hollow-ware; forging, tempering, grinding, and polishing of knives and razors; ivory-carving, &c. The large vats containing the cyanides and articles to be plated were inspected in motion.

Irish Mews.

An Easy One.

A new Café Company in Dublin offered 101. 10s. as a prize for a name for their establishment, and it has been secured by Mr. J. Chamberlain, L.P.S.I., manager of Fnrlong's Medical Hall, Dublin, whose idea was to call it "The Mecca."

Drug-contracts.

The following contracts for the supply of medicines to the Mayo County Infirmary has been secured by Mrs. Ryan, and that of Ballyshannon Union by Messrs. Clark & Co. (Limited), Belfast.

The Killarney Union recently accepted a tender for drngs 15 per cent. lower in discount than another tender, and the L.G.B. has accordingly written the usual threat, to which it is proposed to respond at next meeting with a motion to rescind the contract.

At the Lurgan Guardians' meeting last week it was reported that the drug analyst absolutely condemned one of the samples of medicine supplied by the contractors, while a second was stated not to be B.P. The official machinery has accordingly been set in motion, and the matter put right.

Messrs. Thacker & Hoff have protested against the decision by the Clonakilty Union, acting upon the instructions of the Local Government Board, that they are ineligible for supplying medicines as they already supply surgical instruments. They maintain that other firms supply both things to other nnions. The Guardians have sent Messrs. Thacker & Hoffs' letter to the Board.

Acting upon instructions of the L.G.B. the Limerick Guardians bave altered their contracts for the current year so as to end on March 31 instead of September 29, 1900, the fermer being the end of the Government year, and the time at which, according to the regulations, all contracts must terminate. The Gnardians now wonder how Messrs Harrington & Oo. (Cork), and Messrs. Smith & Sbeppard (Dublin), the contractors for medicines and surgical appliance, will view the matter. The same Guardians report that Sir Charles Cameron, analyst to the Union, has not reported upon samples ser to bim for analysis during the quarter which ended on September 30.

Scotch Mews.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

New Edinburgh Infirmary Superintendent.

At a meeting of the managers of the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary on November 27, the important appointment of superintendent, vacant through the death of Surgeon-Major-General Lythgoe, was filled by the appointment of Colonel W. P. Warburton, M.D., C.S.I. Colonel Warburton has had thirty years' experience in the Indian Medical Service, chiefly in administrative work, the last appointment he held being that of temporary director-general of the Service.

Got Off Easily.

On November 28 Richard Orr, seaman, was charged at Boness with assaulting Marshall Thomson, chemist. He was convicted and fined 1l. 1s., with the alternative of fourteen days' imprisonment, and he was further bound over to keep the peace for six months. It appeared that Orr's sister was employed as an assistant in the chemist's shop. Orr had taken umbrage at Thomson for some reason, and was cautioned at the Police Court on Monday for assaulting him. After leaving the Court on that day Orr went to the chemist's shop and knocked Mr. Thomson down, and threatened to do for him.

A Cocaine Slave.

The Glasgow Evening Times publishes under the heading of "A Warning to Chemists" an account of a young man who had been obtaining quantities of cocaine from chemists of the southern districts of that city, by tendering false prescriptions. He called at a chemist's shop at Polloksbields recently, and handed him a prescription for 4 gr. of cocaine. This was given him, and he immediately swallowed it. He then stated that he had no money to pay for it, and after telling the chemist to do wbat he liked walked out of the shop. The next morning he called again and offered an apology for his conduct of the previous day. He told the chemist that when he came to get the cocaine he had already had over 60 gr. He stated that he himself was a chemist, and told how he had learned the habit when quite a boy. Wben serving his apprenticeship he had a severe attack of toothache, and was recommended to try a little cocaine. He did so, and from that time had continued to take small quantities, until he became a slave to the cocaine habit. He now says that his craving is only satisfied when he has taken about 60 gr. a day.

East Indian Mews.

A NEW HOSPITAL-DISPENSARY has been opened at Khoolna Tbe building was erected by public subscriptions amounting to 20,603r.

THE VIOEROY AND THE LABORATORY.—On November 7 the Viceroy of India paid a visit to the Laxmon Meram Cbemical Laboratory, Rajkol Katbiawar, which was opened last November by Lord Sandburst, Governor of Bombay, and is under the direction of an English pharmacist, Mr. H. L. Lee.

NEW MEDICAL SCHOOL.—A new medical school has been built at Dibrujarh, Assam, and will be opened on June 1, 1900. The school is for the use of Assamese students, and was provided for by a legacy under the will of the late Brigade-Surgeon John Berry-Wbite. Of the 50,000r. bequeathed 33,591r. have been used.

COMPLAINT BY A WIFE.—At Calcutta, last month, Mrs. P. Marum sued her hnsband, J. M. Marnm, manager of the London Pharmacy, for maintenance-allowance for herself and children. There was also a charge of cruelty. The parties had been married ten years and the cruelty was stated to be most inhuman. Mr J Remiry, for the defence, said his client did not deny cruelty, but pleaded inability to allow a separate maintenance for his wife and children. His Worship, having ascertained that accuret was drawing a salary of 120c. per month passed on order granting 49c. per month as maintenance.

French Mews.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

A USEFUL LEGACY has been left to the Nancy University by a M. Le Monnier in the form of the Serotherapic Institute of the East of France, which includes a building, furniture, and a sum of 10,170f. (about 406L) and an annual income of 1,800f. (72L)

THE BUBONIC PLAGUE.—A few days ago Dr. G. Ferré, professor at the Bordeaux Faculty of Medicine, gave an interesting lecture on bubonic plague. In common with a number of other provincial doctors he had been requested by the French Minister of the Interior to study the plague, with a view to checking it if it appeared in France.

TRADE WITH SIAM.—A Bordeaux merchant who established an agency at Bangkok a few years ago, with the object of furthering the export of French goods to Siam, has discovered, after a good deal of wasted energy, that the Siamese have a special predilection for British goods, and are averse to purchasing French goods. The merchant in question has therefore no alternative but to supply the native wants or close his depôt, and he is trying to follow the former course. I understand that the preference includes drugs, medicines, soap, and perfumery, though this trade is limited. On the other hand, some of the French papers complain that British trade is increasing with the French colonies; it amounted, roughly, to 1,500,000 last year, which is scarcely sufficiently large to give cause for alarm.

STUDENTS ASPHYXIATED BY SULPHURETTED HYDROGEN—A case of asphyxiation by sulphuretted hydrogen occurred last week in the Industrial Institute at Lille. A student who went to the gas-holder to use some of the gas fell back after a few seconds asphyxiated, but soon came round. Another student also became asphyxiated, and fell heavily, but upon being carried outside appeared to recover. He chatted with his fellow-students for upwards of an hour and seemed quite recovered, but went into a lethargic state later. He was then taken to a hospital, where he died early on Saturday morning in spite of the most skilful medical treatment.

PASSING THE CUSTOMS -During the first days of August next year an International Congress on Customs Regulations will be held in Paris. M. Chandèze, of the French National Office for Foreign Trade, is the organising secretary. In view of the complaints about the difficulties of introducing English and American drugs and medicines into France, interested firms may find this a suitable opportunity for approaching their delegates with a view to bringing up this subject for discussion. When at Nice a few weeks ago I learned that the difficulties in the way of importing drugs and medicines into the Riviera are as great as ever, in spite of the fact that the Mediterranean coast is inhabited during three or four months of the year by thousands of English and Americans, many of whom go there in search of health. While reasonable facilities for purchasing the medicines they are in the habit of obtaining at home are not granted them, little hindrance is placed in the way of pirates who imitate foreign patent medicines in France.

MEDICINAL WINES AND SYRUPS.—The question as to what constitutes a medicinal wine has been for a long time a subject of contention between French pharmacists and certain manufacturers or distillers. The pharmacists contend that preparations sold as kola wine, quinine wine, coca wine, &c., are medicinal, and cannot be legally sold anywhere except in pharmacies. On the other hand, the makers find that they are likely to obtain a much larger sale by having their wine sold in cafés, wineshops, &c., than by pharmacists; and some go as far as to print a statement on the bottle-labels to the effect that the wine is not a medicine. Recently the Paris Syndical Chamber of Wholesale Distillers have asked the Paris Prefect of Police to fix on a label which will serve as a means of distinguishing between pharmaceutical preparations and the products sold by distillers. The Prefect has replied that the law as it stands is sufficient to prevent fraud. As to the question of establishing a distinction between pharmaceutical pre-parations and those made by distillers, the Prefect said it could not be competently treated by his department.

Colonial and Foreign Hews.

MORE SERUM-LABORATORIES.—A laboratory for the manufacture of Yersin yellow-fever serum is to be located in the quinta da BôaVista, in the old São Christovão palace grounds, in the city of Rio.

DYING.—From January 1 next the German Pharmaceutical Union and also its organ will cease to exist. The members of this Union were mostly assistants of rather pronounced Radical tendencies, and noted for their attacks on apothekers in business.

THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF BULGARIA decided on October 3, 1898, to publish a pharmaceutical paper. The first number has now appeared under the name of Revista farmaceutică bulgară. The editor is Mr. Hara'amb Karastoianoff, and the journal will treat all scientific and especially business questions connected with pharmacy.

BUSINESS IN PARA.—United States Consul K. K. Kennedy, at Para, Brazil, writes to the State Department at Washington that there is unusual activity in the rubber-market in that city as well as in the manufacturing industries. A soapfactory is being creeted and an ice-plant is almost ready for use. All the materials were brought from the United States.

JAPAN WANTS OPIUM.—Advices from Sivas (Asia Minor) announce the arrival there of Dr. Iyanaga, who is travelling for the Japanese Government in order to study and report on the various ways in which opium is cultivated and treated in the different producing countries of the world. Dr. Ivanaga was in Constantinople in September last, and on leaving proceeded to Smyrna, and is now travelling through Asia Minor on horseback.

PORTO RICO TARIFF.—The Board of Trade have received through the Foreign Office copies of circulars issued by the United States War Department by which the Customs tariff in force in Porto Rico has been so amended that the importuties on alcoholic beverages are fixed at specified rates exclusive of any duties leviable on the receptacles in which they are contained. Under the new order alcohol itself is charged \$21 per hectolitre.

ECUADOR RAISES TARIFF.—The Board of Trade have received through the Foreign Office a communication from H.M. representative at Lima in which it is stated that from January 1 next additional Customs duties of 10 per cent. will be imposed on all imports into Ecuador. Goods which are at present stored in Ecuadorian Custom-houses, or which leave foreign ports before December 1, are exempted from the operation of this additional duty.

RUSSIAN BACTERIOLOGICAL STATIONS.—State bacteric-logical institutions are shortly to be erected in numbers of districts where formerly there were none existing. One has lately been opened in Vladivostock (East Asia), and it is expected that one will shortly be founded in Merv. This last place will be specially interesting from a bacteriological point of view, because most epidemics have their seat in the Central Asiatic steppes, and this as a position for their investigation could not be more favourably placed.

JAPAN CUSTOMS AND INVOICES.—The Kobe Chronicle is informed that the Japanese Customs now refuse to pass goods if the application has only a press copy of the invoice attached. They insist on the original invoice being presented. "The regulation cannot avail to protect the Customs against fraud," says Commercial Intelligence, "as, if any misrepresentation is intended, it could be as easily done by means of an alleged 'original' invoice as by a press copy." [From what we know of the wholesale drug-trade, however, we do not think they would be parties to any such arrangement.—ED.]

APOTHEKERS IN THE DUTCH INDIES.—The number of apothekers practising in Dutch India at the end of last year was 48, of whom 43 were in Java. At the examination of pharmacists last year it was noticed that those who wished to practise their calling there evinced very little practical knowledge. In consequence a new rule bas now come into force, according to which no apotheker can be admitted to the Approbation examination in Dutch India unless he can prove that he has had at least two years' practical experience under the direction of a Dutch apotheker.

Personalities.

MRS. T. H. W. IDRIS presided on November 21 at the annual meeting of the North St. Pancras Women's Liberal Association.

MR. CHARLES W. WHITE, of Bombay, returns to his duties in India on December 1, after his usual summer holiday in this country.

MR. A. L. TAYLOR, lately a dispenser at St. Bartholomew's, and now of St. Saviour's Union dispensary, has been appointed to Bristol Royal Infirmary.

AT a meeting of the St. Pancras Guardians on November 23, the salary of Mr. W. E. Miller, dispenser at Clarendon Square, was increased from 120% to 140% per annum.

At the University of London on November 22, Miss Mary Ariel Stewart had conferred on her the degree of Bachelor of Medicine. Dr. Mary Stewart is sister to Dr. Grace Stewart Billings, of Cheltenham, and daughter of Mr. Jas. Stewart, chemist, Cheltenham.

A MARRIAGE will shortly take place between Miss N. R. Palmer, daughter of Mr. Thomas Palmer, Westbourne Villas, Hove, and Mr. Arthur H. Cox, jun., son of Alderman Cox, Wellington Villa, Brighton, and general manager of Messrs. Arthur H. Cox & Co.

MR. WILLIAM WARD, who for nearly forty years has carried on business at the Sheffield Moor Pharmacy, Sheffield—one of the oldest pharmacies in the city—has retired. He served his apprenticeship with the late Mr. Salisbury, ultimately succeeding that gentleman in the proprietorship of the Sheffield Moor Pharmacy.

AT a supper in celebration of the fifty-ninth anniversary of the Loyal "Man of Ross" Lodge of Oddřellows on November 21, Brother Thomas Matthews, J.P., chemist and druggist, and chairman of the Ross Urban District Council, was presented with a richly-mounted illuminated emblem of the Order on behalf of the Lodge. The gift was a mark of the esteem of the members of the Lodge for Mr. Matthews' services as Hon. Treasurer during the past fifteen years.

WE had a call from Mr. George Mee, of Wellington, N.Z., on the eve of his return to New Zealand. Mr. Mee is ex-President of the N.Z Pharmacy Board, and has been in England to recuperate. He was apprenticed some forty years ago with his cousin, Mr. Joseph Dulley, of Wolverhampton, and was afterwards assistant with retail and wholesale houses in London. Mr. Mee said that the federation of New Zealand and Australian can only be a matter of time, but the intervention of 1,200 miles of rough sea between New Zealand and Australia is a natural barrier to federation, which



has taken a long time to overcome. Reciprocity between the different Pharmacy Boards must follow in due course. They have cutting stores in New Zealand just the same as in the mother country, and Mr. Mee's opinion is that the best way of combating them is to meet them on their own ground. He does not believe much in anti-cutting schemes which are put forward. "You cannot get over the fact that

a chemist is not a professional man, but is engaged in trade. And, after all" he added, "scientific men as a rule are not very highly paid." A relative of his, a gas-enzineer, who has had an expensive scientific education, gets a salary which is much less than a good workman can get, although Mr. Mee said he had found during a tour in Germany that scientific men are better paid there, the proprietors of the large chemical-works placing scientific workers in a higher plane than anywhere else in the world. Mr. Mee was present at the last evening meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society, and enjoyed the papers very much as well as the social inter-

course it offered. He had been well received by the leaders of pharmacy in this country; he spoke to us very appreciatively of the courtesy he had received from Mr. Martindale and Mr. Walter Hills. Mr. Mee has been here for three months, and, including in that three months a continental trip or two and, a spell of ill health, his time has been necessarily limited; he could have done with a couple of years, he said. Mr Mee left on November 24 for Paris, and joins his ship at Naples on December 15.

AMONGST the passengers on the Ortono, which sailed on Friday, November 24, for Sydney, N.S.W., was Mr. Moses

Prosser Davies, pharmaceutical chemist, Tenby, Pembrokeshire. Mr. Davies has disposed of his business in Tenby, which he has carried on for fully a quarter of a century, in order to settle down in Australia, as two members of his family have been recommended change of climate. Mr. Davies passed the Major examination in 1865, after having had considerable experi-ence in several London pharmacies. He has not given up thoughts of business altogether, for, should opportunity arise in Australia, he will return to the practice of pharmacy.



MR JAMES HARGREAVES, F.C.S., co-inventor of the Hargreaves-Bird electrolytic alkali process, is one of the more interesting personalities connected with the alkalitrade, and especially to chemists and druggists, from the fact that his earliest chemical knowledge was obtained in his father's pharmacy. As a youth he paid some attention to the recovery of sulphur from alkali-waste, and his work gave evidence of such ability that the late Mr. John Mercer advised him to devote his attention to the technology of the alkali-industry. He offered his sulphur-process to Mr.



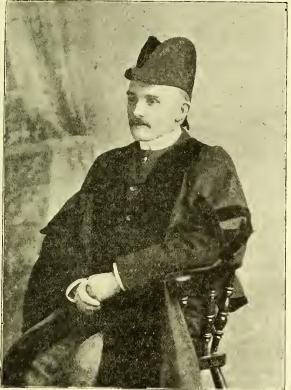
William Gossage, but all the encouragement he got from him was to be taken into the Gossage laboratories, where he was set to work to find a method whereby the chromates could be recovered from palm-oil bleaching liquids. He succeeded in this, and since that time (1859) his name has been associated with the alkali-industry, especially in connection with improvements in the details of the Leblanc process, and his work may be said to have reached its zenith when he described his electrolytic process to the Society of Chemical Industry at Burlington House on December 2 1895.

DECEMBER 2, 1899

The Pharmaceutical Examinations.

A former Examiner deplores that they have become too Scientific.

THE sixth annual dinner of the Metropolitan College of Pharmacy was held in the Venetian Chamber, Holborn Restaurant, on Saturday, November 25, when Mr. G Claridge Druce, M.A., F.L.S., presided. There was a large and enthusiastic gathering numbering 270 of the present and past students, and amongst the invited guests of the Principal (Mr. Watson Will) were Dr. F. B. Power, Messrs Thomas Tyrer, G. Spratt Taylor, W. Prior Robinson, J. W. Bowen, Dr. H. A. D. Jowett, Dr. Harrison Martindale, and many past students of the Society. Apart from the fact that the dinner was the largest pharmaceutical gathering of the kind which has taken place in London for some years, it was remarkable for a stirring address by the Chairman on the present condition of the pharmaceutical examinations in Great Britain. Mr. Druce recalled some of his early ex-



MR. G. CLARIDGE DRUCE In his Robes as Sheriff of Oxford.

perience with his friend Branson, of Leeds, in teaching botany and chemistry classes, and how in the process they taught themselves sufficient to pass the Minor and Major examinations, which were less difficult in those days, without leaving their situations except for the days required for the examination. Mr. Druce continued:-

At that time the examination was essentially an examination for a pharmacist, an examination in which pharmacy was more adequately represented than it is now, and the candidate who passed it was looked upon as being more useful in the shop than one who had not passed. In course of time, however, the purely practical and pharmaceutical side of the examination, instead of being the predominant partner, has been gently and insidiously and constantly pushed more and more into a subordinate position. One of the ill effects of this policy is to materially increase the perceutage of failures. One of the ways in which this usurpation of the more truly useful and technical side of our examination has taken place is in the relative number of

MARKS GIVEN TO EACH SUBJECT.

At the present time the relative value of the marks given for botany and chemistry has been much increased, and proportionately the technical subjects have suffered. Moreover, when any alteration has been made in the schedule pharmacy and materia medica have had to give way again and again. Nor has the decadence of pharmacy as represented in our examinations yet beeu arrested, not even with the board of professional chemists and botanists, who, excellent examiners as they are, and, as we are all ready to admit, excellent teachers and men of learning, yet from their being absolutely unconnected with our calling, necessarily lack that special knowledge of our requirements which a trained pharmacist possesses as well as that sympathy which a fellowship of the craft alone can adequately give. The introduction of this alien element has tended to widen the line of cleavage between the practical and scientific sides of pharmacy, and he did not welcome the change. But he also thought the blame should be shared with those in authority who drew up an ill-considered and faulty synopsis; and it was this want of definiteness in the conspectus that caused any divergence between the examiner and candidate. He admitted that on the question of the employment of professional examiners there are two opinions, but on one point they were all agreed-viz., that the examinations are meant to result in assisting to produce as good pharmacists as possible, and that no mere botanist, however well read, and no mere chemist, however well instructed, shall be able to qualify except he is also

It was formerly the practice to ask the names, and sometimes the quantities, of the less important ingredients in some of the compound preparations of the Pharmacopeia, and it was considered by some of our members of Council unfair to the candidate to expect him to remember the ingredients in pil. rhei co. and their relative proportion. But have we under the new régime escaped this question of memoria technica, or has not the ghost which it was supposed had been laid once more reappeared in a new and more fearsome guise? They now had the difficulty of committing a certain chemical chart to memory. The charge which was brought to bear against the old examination can certainly also be preferred against the present, while it may be urged that questions upon the ingredients in a compound powder or pill had at least this man; that the man into a compound powder or pill had at least this merit, that they were just such questions as medical men were in the habit of asking the chemist when they came to write a prescription. His choice of the past tense in expressing this statement was perhaps wise, seeing that the modern practitioner now, alas! apparently rarely troubles about the ingredients in a Pharmacopæia preparation, and his questions are chiefly directed as to whether So-and-So's pills No. 4 contain arsenic or not. (Laughter.) He saw no particular reason to insist upon a candidate getting out his salt from reason to insist upon a candidate getting out his sait from memory, any more than we should expect him to do his practical pharmacy from memory. (Applause) It is only another piece of evidence to show that chemistry is put upon a different level from that part of the examination which is the more essential, and it is giving it a dominating influence which it should not possess. Mr. Druce illustrated this by saying that formerly a candidate who was weak in his knowledge of the ingredients and proportions of the Pharmacopeia preparations was rarely sent back, and never if his other subjects were at all good, while now, brolortons of the Fnarmacoptera preparations was rarely sent back, and never if his other subjects were at all good, while now, if a candidate under the stress of nervous worry forgets a reaction, he is unable to get out his salt, and therefore fails in his work in the first day's examination. He was disposed to think that the very large percentage who fail is to a considerable extent made up by this means. Why should the recognition of preparations be deleted from the pharmacy examination while recognition is retained in other subjects? He thought further that it is not only the quantity, but the quality, of the two scientific subjects that is scarcely satisfactory.

WE HAVE DRIFTED AWAY

from the technical side to the purely scientific. It may be an antiquated idea, but he holds it, that there can be a pharmaceutical chemistry and a pharmaceutical botany. It may be more difficult to get teachers to teach it, but the difficulty is not unsurmountable; demand usually creates supply, and a chemistry which is in touch with pharmacy and a botany which deals with which is in touch with pharmacy and a botany which deals with the morphology of drugs would be more valuable to the student of pharmacy than are the present methods of teaching the sciences. (Applause.) The brewing and the mining chemist would be scarcely satisfied if they were not given some special technical knowledge, nor should the student of pharmacy. We lament the decadence of scientific pharmacy, but how can we expect it to be booming when in the examination-room it is relegated to a subordinate place, and in the central school of pharmacy it is still less in the ascendant? Hence comes the lack of interest in our school of research, which, instead of being used of interest in our school of research, which, instead of being used for pharmaceutical research, has likewise been diverted from its proper function, to be a not very brilliant success as regards chemical investigations. He hoped these grievances would be remedied in the not distant future. The opportunity of doing so will shortly arise when the more important question of

DIVIDING THE MINOR EXAMINATION

into two parts is to be considered. He was strongly in favour of seeing it carried into effect. If in the first part the candidate

could get his chemistry and botany and reading prescriptions over, the final examination would be devoted to dispensing, pharmacy, both practical and viva voce, and materia medica. There can be no doubt that this separation can be carried into effect with little initial difficulty, and candidates would materially leavefit by the charge, while the refers extrem on pharmacy would doubtless be also beneficial. Mr. Druce then proceeded to speak of the relations of the pharmacist in regard to

HIGHER PUBLIC DUTIES,

remarking that the pressing cares of our business are not conducive to such researches as require almost intermittent attention; but when one remembers the magnificent work done by Scheele in Sweden, the painstaking and minute investigation of the Foraminifera by Brady, the classic work on pharmacology by Daniel Hanbury, one sees what first-class work can be done by pharmacists, and one feels that one can scarcely expect to riva such workers as these; but there are lower rungs on the ladder of usefulness which may be occupied with advantage. Those who lived in a country district he recommended to take up some branch of natural history, or archæology, or such pursuit as would take them occasionally into the open air. All around us lies a thick forest of the unknown and unexplored. Individually we can do little to widen the clearance and to let in light; but every foot taken from this jungle forms a base whence fresh exploration can be made. A mere tradesman, without some special know-ledge of a special subject, however rich he may be, appeared to him a poor, uninteresting individual. He recalled the credit done to our craft by such men as Stoddart, of Bristol, with his keen love of the geological and botanical treasures of his charming neighbourhood; Beesley, of Banbury, who investigated with such success the fossils of the Liassic strata by which he was sur-rounded; or the veteran chemist Mitton, of Hurstpierpoint, who, notwithstanding the claims of a mixed country business, found opportunity to describe almost all the known mosses of British India as well as those of his own immediate neighbourhood—these are examples which may well fire the ambition and stimulate the interest of all students entering upon their life's work. Mr. Druce concluded by deploring the tendency of the modern methods of business, especially the enormous and unhealthy growth of joint-stock companies—a new factor in business life which will crush out the individual aspirations which have given us such men as he had mentioned. Leaving the Cassandra mood, Mr. Druce said: "Let me offer a word of cheer to those who have not yet qualified. Do not be desponding at the amount of work before you; stick well to your work; keep punctual attendance at your classes. With the excellent tuition which is given here I have no doubt that very shortly you will have joined the qualified, for you know without me telling you that where there's a 'Will' there's a way.'

Mr. Druce then distributed the medals and certificates to the successful students, which included:-

Silver Medals .- F. T. Roper, W. S. Flick, and D. J. Williams.

Bronze Medals: Chemistry.—O. C. M. Davis, T. T. Richards, and G. A. Cawkwell. Pharmacy.—O. C. M. Davis, W. V. Westlake, and W. R. B Arnold. Botany.—O. C. M. Davis, G. W. French, and F. Pickles. Materia Medica.
O. C. M. Davis, S. W. Wallis, and W. J. Thomas. Dispensing.—G. W. French, T. T. Richards, and M. A. H. Barley.

Thereafter Mr. Watson Will replied to the toast of his health, and, referring to Mr. Druce's remarks, said practical pharmacy and its collateral branches bad been subordinated to such an extent that one began to think there would be nothing left for the pharmaceutical chemist. ceutical chemistry was an outside branch of chemistry, aud would always remain so. He hoped the time would come when they would have a good leavening of pharmaceutical chemistry in the examination. He was delighted to have them all present, and when be looked to the right and left, and saw the company of guests, he thought is was ample evidence that the Metropolitan College of Pharmacy was

doing bonest work. (Loud applause.)

Mr. A. Brooke Britton gave the toast of "The Demonstrators," to which Messrs. G. T. Braich, H. Lucas, and F. F. de Morgan responded.

Mr. Tyrer, in an anecdotal speech, gave "The Students," for whom Mr. H. L. Ironmonger returned thanks.

Captain Peters responded for "The Visitors," and a graceful speech from Dr. F. B. Power, giving the Chairman's health, and a witty response by Mr. Druce, brought au enjoyable function to a close.

During the evening a very excellent programme of enter-tainment was carried out by such well-known artists as Messrs. Dalgety Henderson, Joseph Hay, Charles Capper, Walter Churcher, and W. L. Cockburn.

Co-operative Wholesaling.

 O^N several occasions during the past year we have conversations with M. Leon Becquet, a Belgian chemists, and founder of the Maison Centrale de Produits Chimiques et Pharmacetiques, regarding the work of the Maison. This is a co-operative organisation founded in Brussels on May 20, 1898 to supply retail pharmacists with pharma-

ceutical products at costprice, plus the working expenses. M. Becquet is a gentleman of independent means, and bas gone into the matter as a co-operation enthusiast. He thought over tbe scheme for twelve years before he put it into force, and the Maison as now constituted consists essentially of two classes of members, namely-(1) founders. who have invested in the 4 per cent. debentures of the company, and (2) effective members-tbat is, buyers who hold at least one share each in the company; but if any effective member holds more than ten



M. LEON BECQUET.

shares he is also considered to he a founder. The sharebolding by the effective members is rather ingenious, as for each 201. worth of business done with the Society annually the buyer must hold one 4l. share. The workingexpenses of the company are met by an annual charge of 2l to 6l, according to the amount of goods purchased, and a charge of at least 5 per cent. on the cost of the goods is added to the cost-prices stated in the invoice. M. Becquet informed us early in the summer that within a year the number of the effective members had increased from 300 to begin with to 415 at the end of June, while the members found the system of trading so satisfactory that the average purchases had increased from 100f, per mouth in June, 1898, to 250f, per month in June, 1899. M. Becquet bas now come to London to see what can be done in order to establish a branch in England, and accordingly he issued invitations to several gentlemen connected with the trade to meet him at the Cannon Street Hotel

on Wednesday evening.

The response to M. Becquet's invitation was so meagre tbat instead of a formal exposition of his scheme a conversation upon it took place. In the course of this we gathered that the Maison now numbers amongst its members 450 of the 1,600 retail chemists in Belgium. M. Becquet exhibited tables of figures to show the capital required for businesses of 200, 400, 800, &c., members, how the receipts are expended, and also the monetary benefit obtained by the members. From the last sheet we gathered that a member buying goods to the extent of 290l a year saves 46l 4s., or 17½ per cent. This is made up of 29l of actual saving on the prices of the goods, 71. 6s. from the reserve fund, and 71 10s. of indirect benefit. But if the Association consisted of 800 members instead of 400, the benefit would be augmented to 521 6s., as the more members there are the greater the benefits to each individual. M. Becquet further explained that the scheme is by no means merely a trading one; the Maison has already started a system of protection of prices, and it is contemplated that a Widows and Orphans Fund, an International Pharmacopœia, and similar ideas will be promoted. In spite of the poor response to his invitation, M. Becquet did not appear to be at all despondent. "The ground is levelled," he said, "and we have determined to go along We propose to start in Eugland, France, Austria, and Germany in succession, and we will do it," he continued. "As branches of the Brussels business?" we queried. "No, no; I only want English druggists to take up the idea, and they will get the benefit of our experience in carrying it out."

Winter Session.

Advance notices of the meetings to be held are inserted under "Coming Events." Secretaries are requested to send such notices not later than Wednesdays of the weeks before the meetings are to be held.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. NORTH BRITISH BRANCH.

EVENING MEETING.

THE first evening meeting of the session was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on November 29. Mr. Peter Boa, the Chairman, delivered the following

INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

After some preliminary remarks, Mr. Boa said that they were on the threshold of important changes in some of the conditions regulating the entrance to their calling. The Pharmaceutical Society was relinquishing the First examina-tion, and in lieu thereof it would receive certificates of specified educational bodies. The examination would be so mewhat more formidable, but need not be all passed at one sitting. There could be no doubt that the First examination, as it was at present conducted, was a simple and convenient arrangement for intending entrants. It was easy for a pharmacist to tell a youth who thought of adopting pharmacy for his career how to obtain entrance. The system of accepting certificates from a multiplicity of examining-bodies may be found quite as convenient, but at first he felt sure it would give rise to a lot of trouble and irritation. A busy pharmacist could not be expected to have at his finger-ends the ways of getting at the various bodies whose examinations were recognised. He might give the inquirer a copy of the Society's syllabus of examinations, but that would not help him. A youth fresh from school had no great liking for writing letters as to examinations, and his father probably was a busy mau, who had no time to make inquiries. This pharmacy business was designated too troublesome. and the youth was absorbed by a calling with a less complex entrance. He might be wrong in auticipating trouble. He hoped his fears might prove groundless.

THE SCARCITY OF APPRENTICES.

At present many pharmacists complained of not being able voo obtain appreutices. Should the new method of passing the first examination prove troublesome at first the scarcity of apprentices would be intensified. He would not express an opinion as to whether that was as it should be, but he was surprised the supply of apprentices had kept up as well as it had done when the inducements were considered. Unless in a few pharmacies, the hours of business frightened even the most enthusiastic of those who entertained the notion of becoming pharmacists. Banking, law, and insurance offices absorbed most of our best youths. The prospects were quite as good as in pharmacy, and the hours about one half. He often heard a desire expressed for a better educated and luxuriously brought-up class of entrants to their calling. These could not reasonably be expected so long as their hours of business remained as they were. The long hours were ont of date, unnecessary, and a hindrance to pharmacy's best interests. In saying this he was alive to the probability of their wanting to know how they could be shortened. It might be done by combination, but that, experience taught, was among them difficult to get. It was a pity that their hours of business should frighten away desirable youths, not only on the pharmacist's account but on the youth's own account; there was no more delightful occupation than pharmacy. Its never-ending variety was a continual entertainment to a thinking man. When a man had been engaged in pharmacy for ten years his stock of general and useful knowledge was probably unequalled by that of a corresponding man in auy other business.

THE MINOR EXAMINATION.

The course of education which had to be undergone before the Minor was passed was well designed to fit those who qualified for carrying on their after-work. The large percentage of failures in the Minor examination was taken by

some to point to defective systems of education, but this he was not prepared to admit. The examination itself was a fairly stringent one, and it was carried out on the basis of a high standard. The percentage of failures, already regrettably high, fluctnated very little, and there was wonderful uniformity in the passes and failures in both London and Edinburgh. That was an assuring indication that the examination was not being conducted in any haphazard or slipshod manner. When the number of subjects which had to be got up and kept up was cousidered, it must be admitted that the examination was a very heavy one—in fact he believed it was the heaviest in this country. The question of dividing it had been raised. It was divided as it was, but the interval between the two portions was too short to be of much service as a relief to candidates. The subjects had been extended from time to time, and should a further extension of any of the subjects be deemed expedient it was very likely that the question of relieving the strain would be considered.

The majority of failures, so far as he could judge, was due to caudidates coming up too soon. It was a perfectly natural thing for a candidate to endeavour to pass as quickly as he could, and in his haste he was liable to get knowledge without understanding. Examiners were occasionally blamed for failures. This was with him tender ground, and they could scarcely expect him to criticise or defend. It would be kindness, however, to the Board of Examiners to always remember that they were only human. The majority of failures occurred, so far as he had observed, in the simplest things.

DIVISION OF THE MINOR

into two portions, with an interval of at least three months between them, would almost certainly lead to a higher standard of real knowledge being attained. A studeut very naturally might be expected to go more thoroughly into two or three subjects than into half-a-dozen. Such a division of the qualifying-examination would require to be very carefully arranged. Probably the first portion might consist of the scientific subjects, and the second portion of the technical subjects and practical work. Fewer subjects and a higher standard would suit all candidates. The scientific subjects were a fine mental training, leading students into the method of observing, thinking, and understanding things in a systematic way. Their precedence of the technical subjects might therefore be expected to bring about a clearer apprehension of the latter.

THE INCREASED FEE

for the Minor which would be charged after next July examination would probably operate towards preventing premature presentations. He was not sauguius that it would. Until they had an enforced course of study they need not expect but that a number would al ways come up on the minimum of preparation calculated to give them a chauce. He did not mean that their students would get better teaching by an enforced curriculum, but it would be spread over a longer period and be better assimilated. If the value of the Minor qualification increased after the advent of the ten-guinea fee in proportiou to its increase after the introduction of the five-guinea fee, it would be "cheap at the price." He referred to the responsibility laid upon the Society of prosecuting in the public interest persons who were reported to have infringed the Pharmacy Act, and the large and increasing outlay which that duty involved, and said that the increase in the fee was of the nature of a registration fee. Mr. Boa also pointed out that since examination became compulsory connection with the Society had become optional, and that only about one-fourth of those on the register joined the Society, and the consequence was that the subscriptious of the few who joined the Society had to be expended in maintaining the rights of the many who remained outside and paid nothing. Since three-fourths of those who had qualified in the past had shown themselves regardless of their obvious duty, it seemed only just and reasonable to arrange now for

LEVYING AN ASSESSMENT

sufficient to prevent the Society from being out of pocket in caring for the material interests of the possessor of the qualification. It seemed to him a pity that the Society had

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not some control over persons whose names it placed on the register. The Society could remove a person from membership, but it had no power to cancel his qualification. The person on the register had at present the whip-hand on the Society. If the Society had a disciplinary power it would have the whip-hand on him.

They were more and more coming into confidential relationships with medical men and their patients. Why, therefore, should not pharmacists be pledged to fidelity in all things relating to their business and their licensing-body provided with powers to bring them to bock in case of unbecoming conduct, such as supplying inferior medicines, supplying drugs or appliances for immoral purposes, covering unqualified persons so as to enable them to carry on business, and such-like practices? The Society might reasonably ask these things—it might readily get them; if obtained they might be found very useful—more useful than many of the numerous suggestions which had recently been made for the Society's benefit. There could be no doubt that strained

sides for each other's interests. In Edinburgh and the East of Scotland

PHARMACISTS AND PHYSICIANS

relations between members of their calling and physicians

were created from time to time by a want of regard on both

confined their operations to their legitimate spheres. The result of that was, he believed, highly satisfactory to the public as well as to prescribers and dispensers. fortunately in some towns in Scotland and in many across the Border physicians supplied the medicines which their patients required, and chemists in these towns prescribed and advertised quack medicines—so it was alleged. The safety of the public and the credit of the two classes involved demanded that this sort of thing should cease. The person who should but did not write prescriptions was the primary factor in the case. There was no use in a few setting examples and possibly thereby making martyrs of themselves. The movement must be general and compulsory to be effective. That their Society had no controlling-power in regard to the conduct of registered chemists was used as an argument against the legitimate dispenser. What guarantee was there, it was asked, that prescriptions would be treated in good faith and honourably compounded? If their Society were to obtain the disciplinary powers he had indicated he believed it would be an important step towards the abolition of medical dispensing.

Dealing next with matters pertaining to the branch, he spoke of how pharmacists in Edinburgh had stood by each

other especially in recent years.

A STIMULATING FACTOR

had been the meeting of the British Pharmaceutical Conference held in Edinburgh in 1892. At that meeting they made each other's acquaintance, and the social intercourse was so much enjoyed that their local trade association was formed to foster the goodfellowship, and he had no need to tell them how successful it had been. In its more serious aspects it had used its influence to obtain concessions and redress when trade interests had been threatened or damaged.

Mr. J. L. EWING, in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Boa, said he approved not only of dividing the examination, but would not ask candidates to come up a second time in subjects they had passed. Mr. D. GILMOUR (Dunfermline) seconded the motion, which was agreed to, after which Mr.

HILL described the exhibits.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

EVENING MEETING.

AN evening meeting was held at 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, on November 27, Mr. W. F. Wells in the chair. Mr. R. J Downes (President) and Mr. G. D. Beggs (Vice-President) sent apologies for their absence.

Some routine business having been transacted, the CHAIR-MAN introduced the subject of "Dispensing-difficulties." It was a subject that appealed to every one of them, and he expected some very valuable results of the evening's discussion.

Mr. JOHNSTON submitted two prescriptions, for a mixture and an ointment respectively:—

The ointment "strong."

After a good deal of discussion it was suggested that the reporter in pharmacy should take the matter in hand, and this was agreed to.

Mr. O'CONNOR then submitted three mixtures sent for discussion by the President, Mr. Downes. The prescription for them was as follows:—

```
Urotropin.
                                               3ij.
                                         • • •
                                               ող 36
Liq. strychninæ
                                 ...
                                          ...
Quin. sulph. ...
Acid. sulph. dil.
                                               gr. xij.
3j.
3iss.
                         ...
                                 ...
                                          •••
                                          •••
Acid. phos. dil.
                         ...
                                 ...
                                          •••
Syr. limonis ...
                                                ξvj.
Aquæ ad
```

The first bottle was made up by the President, the second in a local pharmacy, and the third came from an English compounder. The mixtures were all of different appearance. The crystals in the bottles were at first thought to be strychnine, but they turned out to be phosphate of quinine.

Mr. SMITH said the crystals were much heavier in one bottle than in the others, which was probably accounted for by the bottle having been undisturbed for a longer

period.

Mr. WATSON submitted the following powder :-

Ammon. chlor. gr. iv. Hyd. subchlor. gr. iv. Ft. pulv. Mitte iij. tal.

One immediately as directed.

In the discussion Dr. Walsh mentioned a doctor who prohibited the eating of salt meat by the patient after taking a dose of calomel. Mr. SMITH and Mr. O'CONNOR agreed that the powder in question might be dispensed without hesitation, and Mr. O'Connor further observed that the chemist's responsibility ought to cease when the patient took the powder. It was resolved that the discussion should be resumed at the next meeting, the members in the meantime being requested to make experiments in the compounding of the various prescriptions.

Other matters of general interest having been discussed

the meeting terminated.

Chemists' Assistants' Association.

THE weekly meeting of this Association was held at 73 Newman Street, W.C., on November 23, Mr. Hymans in the chair, to hear a paper by Mr. F. CURRY on

THE RELATION OF THE WHOLESALE TO THE RETAIL TRADE.

After dealing with the subject of the professional skill and training required by chemists, and the extra responsibility incurred by them compared with the ordinary tradesman, Mr. Curry expressed the opinion that pharmacy was in a somewhat deplorable condition, and that the trade-outlook was of a very discouraging character. Amongst the causes of this state of affairs were severe competition, with profits almost at vanishing-point, the evils of company-trading, the gradual development of the average chemist and druggist into a mere huckster of packed goods, and the restrictions and regulations imposed upon him. In the old days the wholesale houses rigidly adhered to legitimate trading, and would not supply private individuals, and the notion of actually owning shops themselves was unthought of. It was most unusual then for a chemist to change his wholesale house, and far different from the present time, when in the race for cheapness, a chemist sends from one to another to buy in the cheapest market. The wholesale house should act more as an intermediary between the importer or manufacturer and the retailer, and not enter into competition with both, as at present. The retail trade felt this competition most in the baueful influence of the packed-good trade, and also from the fact that nearly every trade-preparation was no longer made by itself, but ordered direct from the wholesale house. This was a retrograde movement, degrading highly-trained and well-educated men to the position of mere hucksters. The one way to combat that evil was to raise the standard of examination, so that a pharmacist might be skilled in the preparation of every compound he handled, and so inculcate into the mind of the public the fact that a chemist is a highly trained and educated man, with whom they can safely entrust the care of some of the absolute necessitics of life.

Mr. HYMANS, in opening the discussion, thought with Mr. Curry that the personal character of a chemist's business was the keynote to the whole thing, and what a chemist should try to keep np was his personal interest with his customer. He thought the retail chemist was much to blame in that he left too much to his whole ale house. Their standard of examination was raised year by year, but how many chemists, he wondered, took the trouble to standardise their extracts according to the B.P., or to examine galenical preparations as received from the wholesale houses? Perhaps this want of interest in their work was dne to keen competition and consequent want of time, and they could not overlook the fact that an extra $2\frac{1}{2}$ or 5 per cent. off very often obtained preference for a house the quality of whose goods the retailer did not trouble to examine-he did not overlook the commercial for the professional side of his business. He thought if certain wholesale houses were getting the retail business more and more into their hands chemists only had themselves to blame,

Mr. Morley Taylor agreed in thinking that most of the evils they suffered under were undoubtedly due to faults of members of the retail trade. The chemist's trade might be in a good position and no such thing as a drug-store be known if the qualified chemist had always been true to himself. The chemist owed a duty and bore a responsibility towards his customers very different to that of the wholesale druggist. Very bad stuff was undoubtedly put upon the market in the way of packed goods, and it was unfortunately true that the public had demanded cheap stuff and low prices. The retailer should endeavour to keep up the demand for first-class stuff, and take care that he sup-

plied it.

A vote of thanks was then accorded to Mr. Curry for his paper and the meeting adjourned.

Poor-law Dispensers' Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held on November 24 at Sessions House Hotel, Clerkenwell. Owing, perhaps, to the rival attractions of the Poor-law Officers' Association or Burgoyne's Cricket Club smoker, there were only ten members present when Mr. F. N. Clark took the chair.

Mr. M. SMITH (Hon. Secretary) read letters from the Poor-law Officers' Association and Public Dispensers' Association. The latter congratulated the Association on its success in inducing the L.G.B. to raise the maximum of their salaries, and also suggesting a conference on an

amalgamation of the two Associations.

The CHAIRMAN, with reference to the proposed amalgamation, said he was able to state that the P.D.A. were prepared to go a long way to meet the wishes of Poor-law dispensers. He thought they would agree to the altering of the title to that of "The Poor-law and Public Dispensers' Association," and would form a sub-committee to look after Poor-law dispensers' interests.

Mr. DUNSTAN strongly supported the amalgamation, and Mr. G. F. FORSTER (Secretary Public Dispensers' Association) endorsed the remarks of the Chairman as to the willingness of his Association to meet the Poor-law dispensers.

Messrs. FAIR, LINDSY, and SPENCER vigorously backed up the proposal; bnt Messrs. BOURKE and HOWELL were opposed to the scheme. Ultimately the motion proposed by Mr. LINDSY and seconded by Mr. DUNSTAN—

That this meeting resolves that the Poor-law Dispensers' Association be affiliated with the Public Dispensers' Association,

on the understanding that the identity of the Poor-law Dispensers' Association be not lost, and that a distinctive sub-executive of Poor-law dispensers' be formed to safeguard their interests, also that the title be changed to the Poor-law and Public Dispensers' Association.

-was carried by 8 votes to 2.

The SECRETARY stated that there was a balance in hand of $1l.\ 10s.\ 2\frac{1}{2}d$, which he suggested should be given to the War Fund. This was agreed to; and

A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Smith for his able perfermance of the secretaryship, coupled with congratulations upon his marriage, closed the meeting.

Photo-micrography.

AT the Shuttleworth Club, Queen Victoria Street, E.C., on November 27, Mr. F. N. CLARK, Vice-President of the Poor-law Dispensers' Association, exhibited his interesting series of photo-micrographical specimens. The demonstration, which included photo-micrographs of entomological, botanical, geological, and pathological subjects, was much appreciated by the large andience of club-members, and the occasion was voted the most successful scientific meeting the Club had ever had. The photo-micrographs are of great beauty and clearness, and we are informed that the botanical series, showing typical sections of stems, leaves, and roots, are in use in several schools.

North-East Lancashire Chemists' Association.

A MEETING of the members of the North-East Lancashire Chemists' Association was held at Blackburn on November 28, when Dr. RILEY CUNLIFFE, of Blackburn, read a paper on

DRUGGISTS AND DRUG-DISTRIBUTION.

Dr. Cunliffe, it may be noted, is the writer of a letter which appeared in last week's *British Medical Journal* in regard to "Pharmaceutical Chemists and Companies," in which the views expressed are those which Mr. R. L. Gifford, Secretary of this Association, has made so familiar. The letter concluded with the following paragraph:—

The great risk at the present time is that the Pharmaceutical Council should be inclined to barter away the rights of qualification. Should they do so a compromise might be forced upon them; but if chemists could be unanimous in declining to deal at all with company-pharmacy I cannot believe that Parliament would force it on them in face of their opposition, backed up by strong expressions of opinion from the medical world.

Speaking to the Blackburn chemists on Tuesday, Dr. Cunliffe recalled the fact that the Lord Chancellor has pointed out that great commercial differences exist between medicine and pharmacy snificient to make it necessary to legislate for these interests from two different standpoints. He thought there was some ground for that, but it did not come within the scope of their consideration. This was, first, the distribution of drugs amongst the public for its own benefit and safety, and, secondly, the right the public undoubtedly possesses to be able to recognise readily, and with ease and certainty, the legally-qualified and competent person. He pointed ont that the day of free trade in deadly poisonons substances was ended by the Pharmacy Act of 1868, while the Adulteration Acts and their administration gave support to his contention that in this free-trade country the principles of free trade are not allowed to act to the injury of the health of the community. If we consider necessary such a comprehensive scheme of protection as the Adulteration Acts for the healthy, how much more stringent onght our regulations to be when they have to be applied to the distribution of the necessaries for the sick and ailing. He instanced some glaring instances of infraction, such as highly-spiced farinaceous compounds sold as 'mnstard,' camphorated oil deficient in camphor, seidlicz powders of improper composition, and belladonna-plasters not made according to the B.P. formula, each of which has its attendant evil when the articles are sold for the relief of the sick. This position of affairs ought not to be tolerated longer than necessary, and it is a position which in its regulation comes most decidedly within the realms of medical politics. But the protection of the public and its drug-snpply from a

medical man's point of view ought to be carried much further than the mere restriction of the scheduled poisons to qualified individuals and freedom of adulteration of ordinary drugs. Very few people, with the exception of medical men and chemists, have the slightest conception of the enormous present-day

TRAFFIC IN EMMENAGOGUES

nsed simply as ecbolica. It is impossible for anyone to defend this abominable distribution. Its utter suppression is the only course which ought to be advocated present time it is impossible to suppress it. It would be dangerous to attempt to regulate it, and, knowing as we all do that steps will have to be taken to meet this growing evil, we must recognise that there is a legitimate demand for these drugs as medicinal agents, and their distribution can only be thoroughly protected when confined to a body of distributors whose numbers are sufficiently small to meet the requirements, and whose individual responsibility is sufficiently great to bring them easily under control. Dr. Cunliffe proceeded to show that since the Pharmacy Act was passed the condition of affairs has so altered that there is every reason for paying attention again to the subject of the supply of medicines. The public is better educated, more reading is done; and he argued that the makers of quack medicines have taken such advantage of this by persistent advertising as to greatly increase the consumption of such medicines, and the distribution of these has created new styles of businesses which were not contemplated in 1868. Besides, antipyrin, antifebrin, phenacetin, sulphonal, and similar potent remedies were distributed regardless of their ultimate effect. The public are being induced by glaring advertisements to consume them in large quantities. Fatalities have already occurred, and yet there is no protection accorded against these powerful agents. In what way can the public be best protected? As the law at present stands a company can carry on the business of a chemist and druggist, and can use their titles. As far as the titles themselves are concerned there can be no doubt that no one, individually or collectively, has the right to use a title earned by qualification, unless he himself has earned that qualification He reminded the meeting that while they were entitled to ask for this there are further

POINTS THAT HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED,

in the interests of the public, and he instanced some mentioned by the *Pharmaceutical Journal*. First, "it is 1899—not 1867": the habit of taking drugs has increased, and the character of present-day drugs is far more potent and most probably will become still more so. Secondly, "the clause must be one that the Government will adopt." The Government will adopt any clause which can be shown to them to be necessary in the best interests of the public. Thirdly, "we ought not to impose a condition upon a company which is not imposed npon an individual." This is perfectly true. "Parliament will sanction nothing which savours of trades-unionism." Dr. Cunliffe was of opinion that companies should not be recognised in any shape or form, for why should chemists be the only persons dependent upon individual qualification who have their interests limited by a company-liability law? He considered it unnecessary for the limited liability laws to be taken advantage of by chemists for their pharmaceutical work; and if this position can be made clear, and chemists beinduced to abstain from the many privileges which the limited-liability law may give, they could with the greater force command opposition to limited-liability companies. As the capital employed by companies is the savings of the public, it is hardly fair that the necessity for public protection should call into existence a body of pharmacists, and that then the public savings should be employed in opposition to these pharmacists. Dr. Cunliffe also pointed ont the advantage to the public of a responsible qualified owner over a qualified assistant, and concluded by saying that "the only way of efficiently safeguarding drug-distribution is by limiting it, in whole or in part, to chemists and druggists, so that you can the easier main ain the purity of the drug and protect the public against unwittingly consuming articles deleterions to itself." He was heartly thanked for the address.

Exeter Association of Chemists and Druggists.

AT the invitation of Mr. P. F. Rowsell (President of the-Association) the chemists of Exeter, on Tuesday evening. November 28 assembled at Sion House, St. Thomas, to meet Mr. C. G. Moor, MA, FI.C., F.O.S., the City Analyst for-Exeter. Mr. and Mis. Rowsell provided a collation for their guests.

Mr. Moor followed up his Plymouth paper on the

BP. AS A STANDARD FOR DRUGS.

He said that although they knew the British Pharmacopæia was not a legalised standard under the Food and Drugs Act it was practically accepted in courts of justice by magistrates as such. The fact, however, that it was notstrictly a legalised standard was rather a benefit than otherwise, because if it were legalised they would be bound tocarry out all processes and details according to the letter of the law.

Alderman GADD did not think that an offender would get off by pleading that the B.P. had been taken as a standard.

Mr. Moor said that most analysts were agreed in taking the B.P. as a standard. Mr. Moor then dealt with various preparations suggested by the members, including Gregory's powder, the point at issue being the partial conversion of the exide of magnesia into carbonate. He thought some reasonable allowance should be made.

A question was raised as to whether the presence of small quantities of chlorides in lime-water would be held as any adulteration.

Mr. Moon thought not, as the strength of the lime was

the most important point.

There was considerable discussion on the question of sweet spirit of nitre, and as to whether an improved method of keeping it could be snggested. Mr. Moon asked whether the allowance given in the B.P. for natural deterioration was sufficient, and there was a consensus of opinion that it wasnot. Mr. T C MILTON considered that the prosecutions in many of these cases were persecutions.

Mr. J. HINTON LAKE asked a question respecting the tests for distilled aromatic waters, and Mr. Moor said hewas not aware that they were frequently tested. There appeared to be only one method of doing so, which was not to his knowledge thoroughly worked out, but a process might possibly be based on the iodine absorption of the essential oils employed.

Mr. LAKE also raised the question as to what allowance might te made for deterioration in alkaloidal strengths of standardised preparations. In reply, Mr. Moon took the case of liquid extract of ipecacuanha. The B.P. was perfectly clear as to the matter, and he did not see how any departure could be made from those figures unless it were shown that in any particular preparation there was a natural loss of alkaloids.

An interesting discussion ensned on the question of tinctures. Mr. Moon said that as regards many tinctures the total solids left on evaporation were a valuable indication as to whether the tincture was duly prepared and of fully strength. On the other hand, there were some tinctures—
eg, tincture of opium—in which the total solids were
naturally variable, and, provided the morphine was present in due quantity, the amount of total solid residne was of nosignificance within very wide limits. In tincture of capsicum, abnormally low total solids would show that the tincture was deficient in oleo-resin, which was the active ingredient. Such a deficiency might occur from the skin of the capsicum having been separated from the seed in grinding, and a portion containing more skin than seed employed for tincture making.

A question was asked as to whether the total solids of cannabis indica were not variable, and Mr. Moor replied that of four samples which he had taken the total solid residue was practically identical in all cases, namely, about 42 per cent., which agreed closely with the 4 per cent. suggested by Barclay.

Several other preparations were also dealt with, and at the close of the discussion the PRESIDENT moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Moor, which was heartily accorded.

The feature of this meeting (we gather from our reporter's

notes) was its pleasant social character.

Company=pharmacy.

WITH the object of assisting the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain to come to a definite decision regarding the company question, the Federation of Chemists' Associations has asked the members of the Federation and other local pharmaceutical anthorities to meet and declare which of the following suggested methods of dealing with the company question should be adopted :-

(1) To protect chemists' titles and make it illegal for companies of unregistered persons to keep open shop for selling poisons as in the case of individuals.

To apply for protection of titles only.

That all the directors of a company shall be qualified.

(4) That the managing director need only be qualified.
(5) That a company shall be allowed to carry on the business with a qualified manager or assistant, who shall be registered for the purpose, and whose name shall appear in connection with the business.

From the reports which we published last week it appears that the Plymouth district chemists approve of the first proposal in its entirety, and Hallfax chemists adopt it (so far as the titles are concerned) and the third, while the Forfarshire Association has adopted a resolution which practically amounts to endorsement of the first proposal.

We now report other meetings which have since been held. We hear from the Secretary to the Federation that about

sixty resolutions have been passed.

Birmingham.

NO RESOLUTION.

At the meeting of the Midland Chemists' Association Mr. Glyn-Jones unfolded the chemists' defence scheme (see page 873), and after that matter had been disposed of the President (Mr. Jeffrey Poole) introduced the company subject, and asked Mr. Glyn-Jones to explain his views on it.

Mr. Glyn-Jones commenced by advising that any suggestions that were sent to the Pharmaceutical Council should be on lines that they could take to a responsible Government and ask them to legislate upon. The important fact to be borne in mind was that the Government had come to the conclusion that the time had arrived for making some amendment in the law affecting companies carrying on the business of chemist and druggist. The only idea the framer of the clause which had been embodied in the Companies Bill had was that of the protection of the public. If he (Mr. Glyn-Jones) thought that they could go to the Government, and ask them to make company-pharmacy illegal, he would do so; but he had not the slightest hope of that. They had heard a great deal about the danger of recognising or regulating company-pharmacy, but they must bear in mind that the moment they admitted the right of any company to keep open shop for the sale of poisons, however it was constituted, they at once recognised companies and regulated for companies. The public and the Government had recognised company-pharmacy, and the Government was going to deal with it in a way which was not satisfactory to any of them. The point was, would they allow the Government so to deal with it, or would they, as a society, go to the Government and point out the weakness of the clanse, and ask for its amendment in such a way as would give effect to their desires? He thought they had a right to ask that no company should use their titles. (Hear, hear) But when it came to keeping open shop, it was twenty years too late to say that companies should not do it. The Pharmaceutical Society should have taken this up immediately after the judgment given against them in the House of Lords in 1881. But it was not too late to ask that companies should be placed, so far as the Pharmacy Act was concerned, upon all-fours with the individual. He took it that 75 per cent. of the young men who went into business as chemists and druggists did so with capital which was not their own—capital lent by parents and friends who were not qualified. No objection was taken to that: there was no public danger, provided the man who held and controlled the business was qualified. He thought they would have a very weak case if they went to the Government and asked that no one should own a share in a

chemist's business who was not qualified, because it would be difficult to show where the danger to the public came in.
Mr. Glyn-Jones accordingly urged that they should not admit the right of any man to act on the board of directors of any company keeping open shop for the sale of poisons unless he was qualified. If they did they gave away one of the main principles of the Pharmacy Act. If it was sufficient in the case of seven persons carrying on the business that they should have a qualified assistant to sell poisons, he saw no reason why the man in the street should not take up that business and carry it on with a qualified assistant. had been suggested that they should apply for titles only. He did not agree with that, as the Government were now so much intent on the public safety that they would not listen to a request regarding a title only. Nor could he accept the suggestion that the managing director only should be qualified. They wou'd have great difficulty, if they allowed unqualified directors on a board, in defining how much power the qualified man exercised, or how far ha would be He considered overruled by his unqualified co-directors they had a right to say that the man at the helm of a business keeping open shop for the sale of poisons should be qualified, that he should have sole control, and that if the public chose to invest mouey in pharmacy they must be-prepared to do it knowing perfectly well that that money and that business had to be controlled by a qualified man. Of course, it was easy enough for a big business like the Army and Navy Stores, if they did not wish to put their whole business under a directorate of qualified men, to form a snbsidiary company for their drug-department and put this in the hauds of qualified men. His conviction was this that, however much they might dislike it, it was no use putting their heads in the sand and refusing to recognise company-pharmacy. It had come to stay, and it was their duty to see to it that men who held qualifications should be provided with the very best positions under the new order of things, and not take the position of servants. They weretold they had better do nothing, but wait until the Government came to them. That would be a suicidal policy. He admitted if chemists were united they could exercise sufficient power to stop the clause going through, because he did not suppose the Government were sufficiently in earnest to face a lot of opposition. But it would be the very greatest mistake if they did not seize this opportunity of getting some reasonable and real advance upon the present condition of things. (Applause.)

Mr. Charles Thompson said he was not altogether antagonistic to what Mr. Glyn-Jones had said, but he did think it hard that seven men should be allowed to do what the pharmacist could not do individually, particularly when they remembered that the pharmacist was compelled to go through a long course of training. He thought they had good ground for going to the Government or their own members and putting this question before them. They had a very strong case, and he thought they would have more support than they were told by their friends who were in favour of companies. He thought himself that the Council in London had not kept sufficiently in touch with the Privy Council or whoever was drafting this Bill. In his opinion, they must back the Pharmacy Act for all it was worth. They had been heaten by the Companies Act. Companies were not contemplated when the Pharmacy Act was brought into existence. Therefore he thought they should go for

more than Mr Glyu-Jones asked for.

Mr. William Southall agreed with Mr. Glyn-Jones's remarks about subsidiary companies. Large companies would simply form dummy directors.

The President expressed himself a convert to Mr. Glyn-Jones's ideas with regard to qualified directors. For the last fifteen or twenty years they had been grumbling, but nothing practicable had been done The Government had taken the matter in hand now, and if pharmacists did not accept this Bill they would certainly have company-business thrust upon them in a manner that would be more unsatisfactory to them than the fact of not having qualified directors or managers.

Mr. Perry asked if they had really passed the stage when companies could be excluded from the practice of pharmacy. If so, then they must do something on the lines suggested by Mr Glyn-Jones. He did not feel inclined yet to give up their position. If they did, they would revert to the state of nnorganised pharmacy such as existed before the Act of 1868. What they wanted now was a reassertion of the principle that bodies of men carrying on the business of pharmacy should be in the same position as the individual. They should make a definite stand for the principle of

individual qualification.

Mr. A. Southall said they had been making a stand for the last twenty years without much effect. The widows' clause in their own Pharmacy Act had been very much against them. That clause gave unqualified executors the power of carrying on a business, and whenever they had been to the Privy Council or the Lord Chancellor this clause had been thrown at them. "We are only carrying out," they said, "what you have in your own Act. You consider the public are properly protected by this clause, and we consider the public are properly protected if we put the clause in the next Act." That was the position. He thought they must give up as hopeless any idea of abolishing companies, and they must take every advantage of the opportunity offered at the present juncture to strengthen their own hands as far as possible. The Lord Chancellor was with them to a considerable extent. But limited companies had such a power over members of Parliament and the public generally that it was quite hopeless for them to shut them up altogether. But they must be regulated, and it was most important that qualified men should be pnt in charge. There should be a director who was financially responsible, as well as an assistant properly qualified to do the actual dispensing. He did not think they could expect to get a great deal more. There were a great many bogus companies, and they would be able to make a considerable change in them if they did not succeed in shutting them up altogether. So far they had not fixed on a plan, but if they were united he had no doubt they would be able to come to some conclusion as to what they should ask the Government for.

Mr. Glyn Jones, in reply, said if those who held Mr. Thompson's views would produce a man who would take upon bimself the responsibility of engineering a clause which would make it impossible for an ungnalified person to hold shares in a company carrying on business as chemists and druggists, he was ready to follow him. But they had come to this stage—that they must be prepared to put down in black and white exactly what they wanted the Government to do. He was not surprised that the Lord Chancellor did not see his way, as a member of the Government, to become responsible for a clause making it impossible for unqualified people to hold shares in a company. The objection of Mr. W. Southall with regard to subsidiary companies stood, but it was impossible to devise an Act of Parliament which could not be got round.

Mr. Thompson said the suggestions which the Council sent to the Lord Chancellor might as well have been put in the waste-paper basket: he took no notice of them. If they sent a deputation they might get a more favourable reply.

The meeting then closed without coming to a resolution

on the subject.

Derby

ASKS FOR TITLES AND CHEMISTS' COMPANIES ONLY.

The Derby and District Chemists' Association met at Smith's Restaurant, Victoria Street, Derby, on Tuesday, November 21, Mr. Cope (President) in the chair Messrs. Southern and Birkinshaw (Belper), Stevens, Hefford, Warrington, Hart, Readman, Elmitt, and Dawson (Hon. Secretary) were also present. Messrs. Moss, Booth, and Clarke were elected members.

The Chairman, in his opening remarks, reviewed the question of company-pharmacy and the efforts of the Pharmaceutical Society to remedy the evil. He pointed out that there were two distinct proposals-one to abolish companypharmacy altogether, and the other to permit its existence under more stringent regulations. He did not think there was any hope of sweeping the companies away altogether.

The clause as formulated by the Parliamentary Committee of the Pharmaceutical Society was taken as a basis for discussion, the question of title being first considered, and

it was unanimously resolved-

That it shall be unlawful for any company to assume or use the title of pharmaceutical chemist, chemist, or druggist, or any other designation implying registration under the Pharmacy

Considerable difference of opinion was expressed as to the best means of successfully regulating a pharmaceutical company, some members favouring the idea that the board of directors of a company should consist of a certain minimum of qualified chemists, others that the managing director should be qualified, and that his name should be used in connection with the business. Ultimately it was resolved that-

It shall be lawful for chemists to avail themselves of the Companies Act, provided always that the directors and managers responsible for the conduct of a company-business are legally qualified persons, and such persons may use their title of qualifi-cation for the benefit of such company so long only as it is used in connection with their own names.

North Staffordshire

ADOPTS PROPOSAL 1.

The North Stafford District Chemists' Association met at Stoke-on-Trent on November 23, and after a long and animated discussion, in the course of which strong differences of opinion were expressed, adopted the first proposal in the Federation programme. The adoption was nnanimous, because that was felt to be desirable.

Preston

DOES THE SAME.

The Preston Chemists' Association held a special meeting at the White Horse Restaurant, Preston, on November 23. Mr. C. A. Arkle presiding. The Secretary read the Federation letter, and observed that the only suggestion which met with the Association's approval was that referring to the protection of the chemists' titles. (Hear, hear.)
Mr. Lord Gifford (Blackburn) suggested that the meeting

should pass a resolution leaving no doubt on that point. He suggested that the Law and Parliamentary Committee's clanse, to the effect that "no company shall carry on the business of a chemist and druggist, or assume or use the title," &c., should be adopted; whereupon Mr. W. Stuart said the title should include drug-store. (Cries of "No.") Mr. Stuart: Well, "drug-store" seems to be a higher title than pharmaceutical chemist at the present moment. (Laughter.)

The Chairman then proceeded to address the meeting, pointing out that the first proposal in the Federation programme did not meet their full wishes. (Hear, hear.) He emphatically snggested that the Council should proceed at once to introduce a Bill of their own in the House of Commons irrespective of other parties. (Hear, hear.) To apply for protection of titles only would be very bad policy. A test-case [in regard to the use of Pharmacy Act titles by companies] should be taken to the Law Courts, and, if necessary, it should be carried to the House of Lords. He was entirely in favour of the Law and Parliamentary Committee's clause, and was astonished at the attitude adopted by some of the recently-elected members of the Council. They seemed to have turned round completely into company-mongering, and he would welcome the return of Mr. Michael Carteighe to the chair. (Hear, hear) He was the only strong man who had occupied that position

during recent years. (Hear, hear.)
Some conversation then ensued between Mr. Gifford and Messrs. Livesey, Stnart, and the Chairman, which was consummated by Mr. Williamson moving the first rederation proposal as a resolution. Mr. Stnart seconded this, and Mr. Lord Gifford snpported in a long speech embodying the arguments which he has so often expressed through onr columns. He also pointed out that pharmacy had degenerated since examination and qualification became compulsory. This was a momentous fact which their opponents in policy would not face. But it ought to be faced—(hear, hear)—for the forces which had operated to their undoing and degradation, when by every law of natural growth they should have been uplifted and become more professional, would operate still. (Hear, hear.) The canse of the hamiliating position occupied by chemists to-day was the fatal omission to keep the underlying principles right; everything else had been done but that. They ciples right; everything else had been done but that. had soared to stiffer examinations, and had even talked of a curriculum; but while occupying their minds with these things the foundation had been neglected. It was amazing

that the ridiculous position of the House of Lords was not tackled at once and fought to the last. (Hear, hear.) It was more amazing still when they bore in mind that Professor Attfield went to considerable trouble to prove by facts the undermining which was taking place. He strongly urged chemists to hold on to the principle of personal qualification, for without it they, as chemists, were a body without a soul—with nothing to hold on to. The Lord Chancellor was the one man who had helped them more than anybody. (Hear, hear.) Personal qualification or company-pharmacy was the issue before British and Irish pharmacists. They were determined to have what they had earned—the title and practice of pharmacy so far as the Acts of Parliament went. That there was every reason to think justice would be done was evident by the readiness of members of Parliament to support them when the case was put properly before them—as at Plymouth, for example. It was urged that by their conduct they might miss an opportunity, and cause the clause to be simply dropped. He did not think so. (Hear, hear.) But what then? It was simply deferred; they had not admitted the principle of the clause, and that was the all important matter. Once give it up, and they were beyond redemption. Whenever the case of the chemists was laid bare even the man in the street would allow their claim to be a just one. Mr. Hills said he was speaking some time ago to a member of the House of Commons—a Queen's counsel—on this very point, and he said in considering any matter of this kind the members of the House of Commons would have two points before them and be swayed by two considerations. He should like to remind Mr. Hills that it was an axiom that in the establishment of a precedent legal advice was of no value whatever. (Hear, hear.) They must judge for themselves the possibilities and act accordingly. The fact needed to be driven into the minds of all chemists that the Pharmaceutical Society was a typical democratic institution, admirably adapted for voicing the interests of the profession as well as safeguarding the public. It was the bounden duty of every chemist to be a member of the Society, for the chemist in the back street should remember it was he, and not the chemist in Mayfair, that the Legislature desired to understand, and if the bulk of the chemists chose they could make the Pharmaceutical Society absolutely irresistible in

Mr. Livesey inquired how the much-hoped-for improvement was to be brought about. Were they to look for a place between the dentists and the doctors? Those gentle-

men did not seem to care for their company.

Mr. Gifford: They need to be brought to see that the professional principle is at stake—that what is right in our case cannot be infamous in theirs. The medical profession will help us in this matter. If the principle is not allowed in regard to our examination and qualification, how soon will it come to pass that the same observation will be found to apply to the medical profession? Is there not just as much reason in the employment of a doctor by a company as a chemist? The big fault of the Council is that they have not had a Bill in front of the public for the last ten years. (Hear, hear.)

After some further discussion of a conversational character the resolution was unanimously agreed to.

Great Yarmouth

FOR TITLES AND QUALIFIED DIRECTORS.

Mr. W. S. Poll presided at a meeting of the Great Yarmouth Association, held in the Angel Hotel, Great Yarmouth, on November 23, when the Federation's suggestions were discussed at considerable length, and it was unanimously decided that (1) chemists' titles must be protected and (2) all the directors of a company should be qualified.

Wrexham

WANTS UNQUALIFIED DIRECTORS TO BE PROSECUTED.

A meeting of the Wrexham and District Chemists' Association was held on Wednesday, November 22, when it was resolved to join the Federation of Local Pharmaceutical Associations. On the question of company-pharmacy it was unanimously resolved—

That whereas individuals since 1867 are required to serve apprenticeships and to pass examinations before being allowed to use titles, to keep open shop, dispense medicines, and sell poisons, nothing short of deception to all such individuals qualified under the Pharmacy Act of 1867 is apparent, when the separate directors of a company are exempt.

That whereas no prosecution of an unqualified director of a company has ever been made, it be a recommendation to the Pharmaceutical Council to at once institute proceedings against

offenders

Wolverhampton

Moves Backwards to No. 1.

A meeting of chemists and druggists was held on Monday evening, November 27, at the Star and Garter Hotel; Wolverhampton There were present Messrs. W. Fleeming, Phillips, Cullwick, T. Read, Coleman, Godsell, Beardmore, Wilcock, Burnett, Stanway, Lowe, Gibsou, Martlew, L. J. Read, Wolverhampton; Messrs. Perry & Thomson, Birmingham; and Mr. Johnston (P.A.T.A.).

Mr. Gibson, who called the meeting, explained that he had sent out twenty-three circulars, and had received twenty favourable replies. He felt gratified by this splenoid response, and offered, as local secretary, to do anything he

could to further their interests.

Mr. Gibson was then invited to take the chair, and he explained the object of the meeting, and called upon

Mr. Thompson (Birmingham), a member of the Executive of the Federation, to open the debate on the company question. Mr. Thompson said he belonged to the no surrender party. He thought they had a perfect right to take the Pharmacy Act of 1868 and stick to it in order to protect their titles—(applause)—and he considered it should be impossible for seven unqualified men to carry on the business of chemists and druggists. If one unqualified man could not do so, he did not see why seven unqualified men should be able to do so. (Hear, hear.)

be able to do so. (Hear, hear.)

The Chairman explained the nature of the Companies Bill, the Lord Chancellor's proposals, and the Federation's inten-

tions in the matter.

Mr. Stanway, after getting some explanations, said the best course was not to do anything.

Mr. Cullwick said he was entirely opposed to No. 5 suggestion, but asked how a company formed for private or family reasons would stand.

Mr. Godsell: It should fare the same as ourselves.

Mr. T. Read said that he was the only gentleman present representing a company. He supposed it would not make any difference to him personally if his firm could not use the title of chemists, but as chemists they wanted to conciliate reasonable opposition. Previous legislative attempts had been wrecked, he thought, because of very little opposition in some cases. If the trade were to go to Parliament and ask for what was thought too much, and which was opposed by some of the trade, it would very seriously hinder their prospects of success. His own feeling was that unless a company could be absolutely prevented from trading it would not make a very great difference to him. It seemed that what was required was to stipulate that at least the main partner of a company, or the managing director, should be a qualified man. He thought the public would, in that case, have a fair guarantee of safety. Directors were often taken into a company in cases of necessity. For instance, it sometimes arose that a concern wanted a man with the necessary capital, but he might not have the necessary qualification. But if his duties were confined to counting-house work, and were in no way concerned with the dispensing of medicines, he did not see how the public was thereby prejudiced. He did not see that that would be an abuse of the Companies Act, and certainly it would be no infringement of the Pharmacy Act. He thought if they wanted to succeed in any attempt to prevent these bogus companies, they would be right in insisting that the managing director himself should be a dualified man. He did not think that they would carry through a scheme which insisted that all the directors should be qualified. They had no right to disfranchise a man as a chemist because for business or family reasons he chose to make his concern into a limited company. He did not think he had bimself forfeited his right or his standing as a chemist because he had chosen to ally himself with other persons in the business.

Mr. Thompson asked whether Mr. Read considered grocers or anybody else might, under his suggestion, be connected with a company trading as chemists and drnggists?

Mr. Read replied that it would not be material if they

did not take any part in the technical business.

Mr. Phillips said he thought that not only the managingdirector but all the directors should be qualified, because the managing-director was very often not the chief proprietor.

The meeting subsequently decided that suggestion No. 5

on the circular would not suit their views.

Mr. T. Read, however, moved as an amendment that the suggestion should be adopted, his object being to test the feeling of the meeting.

The amendment was not seconded.

No. 4 suggestion was similarly disposed of.

No. 3 was then taken, and

Mr. Johnston (London) made a speech on the subject, supporting the suggestion that the whole of the directors should be qualified, and deprecating the use of pharmacentical titles by companies. He was anxious that they should not be snubbed by Parliament or made the laughingstock of the companies, and therefore he suggested that they should be cautious in their demands.

Mr. Cullwick said that company-pharmacy was with them, and he expressed the opinion that it had come to stay. All that they could do was to see that it was carried on on proper lines, by reason of the directors being qualified and

the public safety secured.

The Chairman said they were not all agreed that companypharmacy had come to stay. He would not admit, as Mr. Read suggested, that companies carried on the business as well as any chemist. The qualified owner was generally able to do better for himself than a qualified manager

Mr. Martlew said that inasmuch as the pharmacy qualification was a personal one it could not be delegated. How then could a chemist have two shops? If the chairman had the opportunity to extend, by opening another shop in a different part of the town, and if it were to his pecuniary advantage to do so, would his scruples go so far as to prevent him opening the branch?

The Chairman said he had already refused to open a

branch. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Martlew asked if suggestion 3 would prevent Boots from calling themselves "cash" chemists?

Several members: Yes.

The Chairman (to Mr. Martlew): I suppose you agree with that?

Mr. Martlew: I have no sympathy with picture-frame

dealers in any shape. (Laughter.)

After some further discussion, and in order to focus the feeling of the meeting, Mr. Phillips moved a resolution to the effect that the first suggestion be adopted. Mr. Phillips said the position he had come to was that chemists hould not recognise the companies at all. The public safety, it seemed to him, was best insured by every chemist's shop being under the control of a qualified proprietor. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Godsell seconded the resolution, and it was carried

unanimously.

AN ASSOCIATION FORMED.

Mr. Coleman subsequently moved that a local association of chemists and druggists be formed to safeguard the interests of the trade.

This was agreed to, and a sub-committee, consisting of Messrs. Gibson, Phillips, and Coleman, was appointed to frame the constitution.

Bristol.

NO COMPROMISE.

A meeting of the Bristol Pharmaceutical Association was Keld on November 24, to discuss the recent decision of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society on the companies question. Mr. G. T. Turner (President) reminded the meeting of resolutions passed in December, 1898, at which it was resolved to support the Pharmaceutical Society in its efforts to obtain legislation on the principle of personal proprietary of all retail shops and the abandonment of the "widows' clause." Mr. Turner thought this was the most critical time in the history of their body. He contended that the whole founda-

tion of the Pharmacy Act was that of personal qualification of the owner of the shop. They did not ask for monopoly of trade, bnt, having spent money and effort in obtaining a legal qualification, he thought it was monstrous to give away, as some seemed inclined, their legal titles and

positions.

Mr. Matthews thought that if the members of the trade throughout the country could be consulted there would be no diversity of opinion among them. He thought that some members of the Law and Parliamentary Committee were afraid to act up to the principle of the Act, which was that of personal qualification. They were more anxious to please the legal profession, than to act for the benefit of the whole trade. If they once recognised companies as legally entitled to call themselves "chemist," &c., any advantage they possessed as qualified men would be gone for ever. He also thought that if companies were allowed to take this position it would not be long before other unqualified individuals also would

Mr. Plnmby was strongly opposed to companies assuming

chemists' titles.

dence in them.

Mr. Allen thought there should be no compromise what-

ever with companies.

Mr. Pitchford believed the public at large, as well as the House of Commons, would listen to representations made to them of the unreasonableness of companies of unqualified persons being able to do what it was illegal for individuals to do. After further discussion, the following resolutions were passed:-

That the titles of registered chemists ought to be protected, and that it should be illegal for companies of unregistered persons dispensing of scheduled poisons, as in the case of individuals; and that this meeting deeply regrets the action taken by the majority of the Council, and hereby expresses its want of confidence in them.

2. In regard to any contravention of the Medical, the Dental, or the Pharmacy Acts, a company or other corporation shall be deemed to be a person, and shall in all respects be subject to the liabilities attaching to a natural person who infringes the provisions of these Acts in either of them.

Birkenhead

and neighbourhood pharmacists declare almost unanimously in favour of No. 1 suggestion, the feeling of the meeting which was held there on November 28 being that this was what registered men should insist on as their moral right. At the same time, the Birkenhead chemists came to the decision that a local Association should be formed-not so much with the idea of holding meetings as that, being a united body, they would then be able to speak and take action when necessary.

Workington

VOTES FOR NO. 1.

On November 24 all the chemists and druggists in Workington met together, and unanimously agreed to form the Workington Chemists' and Druggists' Association. The officers elected were:—President, Mr. William Carruthers; Vice-President, Mr. J. Thompson; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. J. R. Mason. After some discussion on the Federation circular, No. 1 proposal was adopted.

Bradford

ASKS FOR QUALIFIED DIRECTORS.

The following resolution was passed at the general meeting of this Society on November 28:-

It shall be necessary that the directors, or the actual managing director, of any limited company carrying on the business of a chemist and druggist shall be qualified under the Pharmacy Act, 1868, and each shop belonging to such a company shall be under the direct control of a qualified assistant, whose name shall be prominently published as responsible for the conduct of such

Sheffield

GOES ONE BETTER THAN NO. 1.

The members of the Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society met on Wednesday evening, November 29, under the presidency of Mr. George Squire, in order to consider the question. The debate was opened by the President,

who regretted the action of the majority of the Council at the last meeting, and proposed the suggestion that companies should have qualified directors, because, he said, the shops might be all over the country, and the director in one place only. He equally objected to a qualified manager or assistant whose name would appear on the business, because he would simply be a servant of the director. Mr. Squire concluded by moving a resolution calling npon the Pharmaceutical Society to draft a clause of the Companies Bill embodying No. 1 of the Federation circular. Mr. Eardley seconded the motion, and was followed by Mr. Ellinor, who held somewhat similar views to the President in regard to the action of the Pharmaceutical Council, and condemned the Board of Trade for issuing certificates to individuals to contravene the Pharmacy Act. Mr. Newsholme, the Vice-President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain and a member of the Association, also spoke. He pointed out that it was a common mistake to say that they were trying to obtain a monopoly, as they were only seeking a restoration of the title given to them in the Act of 1868, and along with that the protection of the practice of pharmacy. The Lord Chancellor, he said, in seeking to remedy the present anomalies by bringing companies into line with the Pharmacy Act, only looked at the matter through legal glasses. If any vested interests were concerned surely those of the pharmacists were superior to any others, because the companies have been carrying on business illegally. The same reasons why the sale of poisons should be in the hands of qualified persons only which existed in 1868 existed now.

The resolution was then put to the meeting and carried, as well as the following:—

Inasmuch as a company cannot be examined and registered, in accordance with the provisions of the Pharmacy Acts, it should be unlawful for any company or corporate body, as such, to assume or use any title implying registration under those Acts; that all companies or other corporate bodies should be liable to penalties for doing what would be an offence under Section 15 of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, if done by an individual; and that it is not desirable in the public interest that any individual who is not registered under the Pharmacy Acts should be permitted to exercise any control over the retail dispensing or compounding of poisons.

Blackburn

SUPPORTS THE COUNCIL MINORITY.

The Secretary of North-East Lancashire Association reported at the meeting on November 28 receipt of the Federation circular, and it was unanimously resolved—

That the Secretary be instructed to write to the Federation stating that, in the opinion of this Association, no policy should be entertained other than that brought forward by the Law and Parliamentary Committee.

The Optical Society.

A MEETING of the Society was held in the Crown Room, Holborn Restaurant, on November 28. The business done was formal and quickly disposed of. Sir Howard Grubb, it was mentioned, has been nominated as a member.

A soirée and exhibition of optical apparatus was held at the conclusion of the meeting. There were about 200 persons present at the soirée, and a good musical programme was gone through. Among the musical items the most noticeable were the violin solos of Miss Muriel Scharrer, which were accompanied by Mrs J. Raphael. Mrs. Scharrer's solos on the pianoforte and Miss Kemp's singing were of high order.

THE EXHIBITS.

Messrs. Botwright & Grey had a selection of optical instruments, among which we noticed a new form of adjustable trial-frame, the revolving front being actuated by a small-cogged wheel at the side. There was a new form of nose-measure for taking accurate measure of the crest of the nose, and among the trial-cases a useful one for the sight-tester, costing about 6½. 10s., and containing 30 pairs each of concave and convex sphericals, 18 pairs each concave and convex cylinders, 12 prisms, and 2 trial-frames.

Messrs. J. Raphael & Son were showing De Zeng's refractometer and the latest form of Javal's ophthalmometer.

There were several kinds of optician's rnies exhibited, varying in graduations according to the fancies of the inventors. The Dioptric trial-case was the feature of this stall, and another good thing was Beaumont's astigmatic-test chart, with which it is claimed the meridian of astigmatism can be located quicker and more certainly than with the older kinds. We saw here also two kinds of retinoscope eyes, which students find very useful for practising with the ophthalmoscope and retinoscope.

The Morroe Camera Company had a selection of their cameras, which are taking well in this country. The Morroe cameras are made in twenty-two different styles and sizes for plates, cut or roll film. The folding pocket-cameras have a brass trellis at the side, which collapses when it is desired to fold the camera up. In the larger cameras the extending front is kept in position by a gripper, which acts quicker than a screw. The view-finders in the small cameras rotate, so that the same view-finder can be used for vertical and horizontal positions.

Messrs. Ross (Limited) had a fine optical lantern on show, fitted with an aluminium body and adapted for use with the electric arc-light. We saw also the new prismatic binocular field-glass, which is remarkable for its small size and the extent of its magnifying-power.

Messrs. Beck (Limited) were exhibiting Frenas, the Luvex lantern, and lantern-appliances. Among the latter were the Bynoe limelight jet, in which were several novel features and a portable translucent screen made of tracing-paper.

Messrs Culver (Limited) had a case of "Reviuc" pincenez showing the several varieties. The same case also contained five specimens of Brazilian crystal in the rough and cut ready for pebble-glasses.

and cut ready for pebble-glasses.

Messrs. Swift, Watson, & Baker were exhibiting microscopes, Mr. Baker showing the various methods in which his microscopes may be used, such as vertical and multicolonr illnmination.

Deaths.

EREAUT.—At Jersey on November 27, Mr. Henry Ereaut, chemist and druggist, late of Burleigh House, Val Plaisant, St. Helier.

EVANS.—At Caerphilly, on November 25. Mr. Samuel Evans, chemist and druggist. Aged 78. Deceased, who had been in failing health for two years, was the last representative of an old Caerphilly family, and after spending many years at Pontypridd he removed to his old home on the death of his father. He was unmarried.

JOHNSTON.—At Musselburgh, on November 19, Margaret Johnston, widow of the late Robert Johnston, chemist, Mnsselburgh. Aged 58

LESLIE.—At Simon's Town, Cape Colony, on October 30, Mr. George Leslie, chemist's assistant, from St. Andrew's, Fife. Aged 29.

POATE—At Southsea, recently, Mr. Stephen Poate, for many years in business as a chemist at Landport, and lately in the employ of Mr. H. W. Blackadar, chemist, Portsmonth. Aged 60.

THOMSON.—At 85 Addison Road, Kensington, on November 26, Louisa, the wife of John Millar Thomson, LL.D. F.R.S., Professor of Chemistry, King's College, London, and daughter of Charles A. Aikin. Aged 48.

TOWERZEY.—On November 10, Mr. Alexander Towerzey, pharmaceutical chemist, Clifton. Aged 56.

CARBOLIC AND THE U.S. POISON SCHEDULES.—An editorial article in the New York Sun, commenting on the energy of the Chief of the Board of Health of New York City in his intention to see that the State laws are enforced regarding the sale of poisons, has brought out some correspondence on the subject. Amongst this is an able letter from the Editor of the Pharmaceutical Era dealing with the sale of carbolic acid. This poison is evidently as disastrous in effecting deaths by suicide in America as in England, and our contemporary, who holds similar views to those we advocate in this matter, prizes the addition of carbolic to the schedule of the American Poisons Statute, so that its sale in the future shall be in the hands of qualified chemists entirely.

Legal Reports.

Medicine-stamp Acts.

ARRANGED PRIVATELY.

AT Northampton Petty Sessions on November 24, Wm. Chilton and Walter Downes, both of Northampton, were snmmoned by the Inland Revenue authorities for exposing for sale a box containing Chilton & Co.'s ointment without having affixed to it a patent-medicine stamp. The Supervisor stated that the Commissioners had accepted certain arrangements with the defendants, and the case was withdrawn.

The Apothecaries Act.

HOMEOPATHIC TREATMENT.

AT Ashton-under-Lyne County Court on November 23, Charles S Spencer, homocopathist, Ashton-under-Lyne, was

summoned for having practised as an apothecary.

Mr. Hyde said he was instructed to prosecute by the Medical Defence Union, and he claimed a penalty of 20% from defendant under Section 20 of the Apothecaries Act. Unfortunately, he said, the Act did not lay down any definition of what an apothecary was or what his duties were, but he referred to the case of the Apothecaries' Society v. Lotinga, in which an apothecary was described as "one who judged internal diseases by symptoms and prescribed medicines for them." Again, there was no definition of "medicine" in any Act or judgment of the High Court, but the definition laid down in the dictionaries was that "a medicine was anything supplied for the cure of disease." He would call four witnesses, all of whom the defendant had examined and prescribed for, and to whom he had supplied

medicine.

Thos. Harding deposed to visiting the defendant's dispensary and being treated for pain in the side and rheumatism, ailments from which he actually snffered. Mr. Spencer supplied him with two bottles of medicine, for which he paid 1s. 3d.

Thos Ousey stated that whilst suffering from influenza and stomach derangement he visited defendant, and was examined and supplied with two bottles of medicine, for which he paid 1s 6d. The medicine did him no harm. Defendant also gave him a certificate, signed "Chas. A. Spencer, homoeopathist," to the effect that he was unable to follow his employment. Witness admitted that he knew that Mr. Thompson, defendant's predecessor, had practised as a homoeopathist for nearly thirty years.

Two witnesses giving similar evidence were examined, and

Two witnesses giving similar evidence were examined, and Mr. Hyde produced portion of a bottle containing part of a mixture supplied to one of the witnesses, which, he said, had exploded in his own office.

Mr. Hocken, for the defence, said Mr. Spencer was assistant for many years to Mr. Thompson, a qualified surgeon, but who practised homeopathy pure and simple. When he died, Mr. Spencer acquired the homeopathic business, and removed the word "surgeon" from the doorplate. On the lamp at the back door he put the words "Homeopathy—Mr. Spencer, late Thompson," to let the world know that he was not a surgeon. From first to last the defendant had never suggested that he was other than a homeopathist, and there had been no misrepresentation.

His Hononr (Judge Yate Lee): Is it set led that a man may practise homocopathy without a diploma?

Mr. Hockin: I should say that it is; but I cannot refer to any case.

Mr. Hyde: If he trenches on the rights and privileges of an apothecary he is liable, although he describes himself as a homeopathist.

Mr. Hockin submitted that there was no evidence that defendant had acted as an apothecary.

Mr. Spencer bore out his counsel's statements. He added that he only represented himself as a homocopathist, and only supplied homocopathic preparations, which were not recognised as medicines. Dostors said homocopathic remedies were not drugs. They were not prepared by any ordinary chemist or apothecary. The men who prepared

them required a special knowledge of homcopathic pharmacy.

In cross-examination witness, referring to an inquest at which the Coroner had animadverted on his practising, reminded the prosecuting connsel that the Coroner had said there was nothing to stop him practising homocopathy.

Other evidence for the defence having been heard, the Judge deferred his decision.

Employers' Liability Act.

INDIARUBBER-FACTORY EXPLOSION.

AT Bow County Conrt, on November 27, Sarah Boddy sued Messrs. Benjamin Birnbanm & Sons (Limited), waterproofmanufacturers, Bow, E., for 225L damages for the death of her son, James Pugh, who was fatally injured as the result of an explosion at defendants' works (see C. & D., Angnst 12, page 279 and Augnst 26, page 348). Allen Cole, another employé, who was also scalded at the time, claimed a like amount for injuries received. Defendants were large makers of rubber goods, and for the "cnring" of the rubber a mixture of bisulphide of carbon and chloride of snlphur was used. A machine was used in the "cnring," and it was through the defendants omitting to repair a defective wheel and driving-band, whereby an air-fan was stopped, that the explosion occurred.

For the defence, it was submitted that everything was carried ont on the premises under the instructions and regulations of the Home Office. Mr. Benjamin Birnbanm, the senior partner of the defendant company, swore that he did not know the fumes were of an explosive nature, and the Home Office had not informed him. If the fan stopped, it was the duty of the men to at once stop the "curing" machine, which could be done instantaneously.

Jndge French said he failed to see how the defendants could raise such a defence as the one proposed. The most elementary knowledge of chemistry would have proved to them that the compound was a dangerous explosive if allowed to mix with the atmosphere, and thorough precantions should have been taken. He could not understand how any firm could have carried on the business in such ignorance as suggested

His Honour awarded Mrs. Boddy 1501, and Cole 501. Notice of appeal was given.

Adulteration Acts.

CAMPHORATED OIL.

AT Guildford Petty Sessions, on November 25, William Baynham, chemist and druggist, Woking, was summoned for selling camphorated oil which the County Analyst's certificate showed was 15 per cent. deficient in camphor. Defendant submitted that there was only a deficiency of 3:15 per cent., explaining that the deficiency of 3:15 represented 15 per cent. of the amount of camphor which the sample should have contained. Defendant produced a certificate from his own analyst which exactly tallied with that of the County Analyst, but it also contained a statement that a slight loss of camphor was unavoidable. Defendant contended that he weighed and measured the ingredients for the camphorated oil accurately, and the deficiency must have been due entirely to unavoidable evaporation. The Bench adjourned the case for the attendance of the County Analyst to speak on the question of evaporation.

POTASH-WATER.

At the Swindon Petty Sessions on Monday, Nov. 27, before the Bench over which Mr. A. D. Hussey Freke presided, several chemists and aërated-water mannfacturers were charged, under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act or the Merchandise marks Act, with selling potash-water which was destitute of potash. The cases created considerable interest, and they are the first to have arisen since potash and similar waters have been removed from the B.P.

The first case called was that of John James Shawyer, chemist and druggist, Swindon, who was charged with selling a syphon of potash-water which the county analyst, Dr. Bernard Dyer, reported to be carbonated water destitute of potash. Mr. H. Bevir, who prosecuted, in opening the case

said that he wished it to be understood that there was no suggestion of fraud. Evidence of the purchase was given, and Dr. Dyer also was a witness. In cross examination he said that the BP did not give a standard of potash water, In cross-examination and he himself did not care to lay one down. Withy, for the defence, argued that the case should not have been called under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, but under the Merchandise-marks Act. when the defendant would have had an opportunity of showing that he was an innocent retailer. Mr. Shawyer was to have gone into the witness-box, but the magistrates said there was no necessity for it, and Mr. Bevir repeated that there was no reflection cast on the defendant.

The Chairman, in imposing a fine of 1s. and costs, said the magistrates had not the slightest doubt as to defendant's bona fides, and the case was only one brought in the public,

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EDWIN ROBERT ING, aërated-water manufacturer, Swindon, was next called, his summons being taken under the Merchandise-marks Act in respect to the water sold by Mr. Shawyer. The same counsel prosecuted, and it was proved in evidence that the syphon bore the following words: "G. R. Ing & Co., Swindon. Potash-water. Manufactured with filtered water. Please return this syphon as soon as it is empty." The purchase was proved, and Dr. Dyer repeated his evidence.

Mr. Ing stated that it was his constant practice to put 8 gr. of potash to each pint. He explained that he thought it probable in this instance a syphon of plain carbonated

water had had a potash label put on it in mistake.

Mr. Withy argued that this inadvertence was sufficient evidence of Mr. Ing's innocence, and he thought he should be discharged; but the Clerk of the Corrt submitted that Mr. Ing must prove his innocence. Mr. Withy, in reply to this, stated it was impossible to call the man who used the wrong label as they did not know when the particular syphon was supplied to Mr. Shawyer. Mr. Bevir also pointed out that Mr. Ing's suggestion as to the presence of the label on the syphon was perfectly fair, but it did not remove the

The Chairman, in giving the Magistrates' verdict against the defendant, said that they were unanimously of opinion that they were bound to convict, although they did not for a moment suppose that Mr. Ing had intentionally committed a

fraud. They imposed a fine of 10s and costs.

THE THIRD CASE, that against William Williams, pharmaceutical chemist, New Swindon, and it was taken under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act. The peculiarity of this case was that the syphons which Mr. Williams sold bore a label stating that it was potash-water containing 30 gr. of bicarbonate of potash to one pint, and Dr. Dyer had found less than a quarter of a grain in the pint. In this case also a fine of 1s. and costs was imposed.

IDRIS & Co. (LIMITED), aërated-water manufacturers, London, who had supplied the water sold by Mr. Williams, were summoned for applying a false trade-description to the syphons. Dr. Dyer gave evidence in regard to his analysis, and was proceeding to speak about the quality of two other syphons of potash-water bearing the company's label, which he had received from Mr. Smith, the inspector under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, when Mr. Withy objected, and Mr. Bevir, the prosecuting counsel, waived his questions. Mr. T. P. Chubb, secretary to the defendant company, stated in evidence that he had made inquiries regarding the discrepancy which had occurred, and he thought it had arisen during the hot and busy season through plain carbonated water remaining in the pipes and cylinders, and, being overlooked, it had got into the potash-water syphons. There was no desire on the part of the company to sell potash-water which was not what it was stated to be; indeed the company employed a qualified chemist whose duty it was to see that the solution of potash from which the water was made were of full strength, and the company made every endeavour to insure that the quality of the materials was first class.

The Bench, regarding the case as being on all-fours with that of Mr. Ing, imposed a fine of 10s. and costs, and a second summons of a similar nature was withdrawn.

THE NEXT CASE, against Wm. Evans, chemist, New Swindon, was similar to that of Mr. Shawyer, and was taken under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act. He had sold a syphon of potash-water, the label of which stated that it contained 5 gr. of bicarbonate of potath in each pint, but Dr. Dyer found none. In evidence, Dr. Dyer stated that he had absolutely no doubt as to the accuracy of his analysis, but he had only searched for bicarbonate of potash.

Mr. W. Henderson, of Bristol, was counsel for the defence, and he called Mr. John C. Fell, F.C.S., analytical chemist to the Chemists' Aërated Mineral Waters Association (Limited), who stated that he analysed a sample submitted to him and found in it bicarbonate of potash in the proportion of 6 gr. to 1 pint. He afterwards sealed up the bottle and forwarded it to the Bristol branch of the company. In cross-examination Mr. Fell stated that he had made two analyses, employing the titration and flame test and other methods, including the platinum-chloride test for ascertaining the presence of bicarbonate of potash. He was absolutely certain as to the correctness of his results, and had no doubt whatever about the presence of 6 gr. of bicarbonate of potash in each pint.

Mr. C. H. W. Gover, chief clerk of the association at Bristol, proved receiving the bottle from Mr Fell, and submitted it to Mr. F. W. Stoddart, public analyst, Bristol,

for analysis.

Mr. Stoddart in his evidence deposed to finding bicarbonate of potash in the proportion of 595 gr. to the pint as well as $2\frac{1}{2}$ gr. of other solids. He applied two or three independent tests, and came to the conclusion that practically the whole of the alkali in the sample was potassinm bicarbonate. Cross-examined: In one of his tests he arrived at the total solids, and then, forming an opinion from his knowledge of the Bristol water, made deductions, and calculated that the residue was potash. At this point Mr. Henderson said he was quite willing that Dr. Dyer and Mr. Stoddart should make a joint analysis of the third portion of the contents of the syph n, and the case was adjourned to allow of this course being adopted.

Adjournments were also agreed to with regard to two summonses under the Merchandise Marks Act against the Chemists' Aërated and Mineral Waters Association, and with respect to a summons under the Fo d and Drugs Act against Joseph Henry Green, chemist, of Wood Street, Swindon.

County Court Cases.

A CO-OPERATIVE DRUG-COMPANY'S ACTION.

AT Northampton County Court on November 23, the Cooperative Wholesale Drug-company (Limited) brought an action against Mr. G R. Hawthorn for the recovery of 36l. 11s 2d., balance of account for goods supplied. Defendant only admitted owing 14l. 12s 9d., and paid that amount into Court. It transpired that the drug-company were the assignees of the Blisworth Pickling and General Trading Company (Limited), and John Scaife, of 8 High Street Aldgate, E.C., a former manager of the plaintiff company and one of the directors, stated that when the Co-operative Company was started there were 1,588 shares held by his wife and family, one share by himself, one by George Carter, and one by John Green. Mr. Adkins. (defendant's counsel) said it was simply a question whether the goods were supplied before or after his client had notice of the incorporation of the company. Eventually a privatearrangement was arrived at between the parties, and the case was withdrawn.

LIABILITIES TO LEARNED SOCIETIES.

ON November 28 in the Westminster County Court, Judge Lumley Smith, Q.C, had before him an application on behalf of the Linnean Society for a charging-order, and for the appointment of a receiver of the partnership business of the defendant, Mr. W. Cheverton, a chemist, of Tunbridge-Wells. The defendant was a member of the Society, and judgment was obtained against him for subscriptions. Off that amount certain money had been paid, leaving the debt at 181 Mr. Cheverton said he was unable to pay excepting by monthly instalments of 11. Since then plaintiffs had discovered he was a partner with a Mr. Ogle at the Broadway, Tunbridge Wells, and was about to sell his interest. On behalf of Mr. Cheverton it was stated that he had no objection to the charging-order. The business would be sold, and the money paid. He objected to the receiver

and to paying costs of counsel. His Honour made the order for a charge and receiver and costs for the Society only. There would be no interference with the business, and the plaintiffs' Secretary would be the receiver.

THE ALLEGED ATROPINE-POISONING CASE.

AT Malton County Court, before Judge Raikes, Q.C., on November 22, application was made on behalf of the defendant for a new trial in the case of Slack v. Spanton. Particulars of the previous case were given in THE CHEMIST

AND DRUGGIST of November 4, page 765.

Mr. H. W. Pearson, for the defendant, said Mr. Spanton's reputation was at stake, and the case had caused much discussion in periodicals connected with medicine and pharmacy. The evidence of Mr. Holt, R M C S, did not support the theory of atropine-poisoning, and it was impossible for the defendant to be provided with evidence on the question when they had no knowledge that this was to be brought up. Having reviewed the case as given at the last court, he said it was far more likely the lad was suffering from over-gorging, as he was suffering for some time before he got the antifebrin, and he took some pills before that. He (Mr. Pearson) would be able to show that the symptoms were perfectly consistent with poisoning by several other drugs, and consistent with natural causes, or with status epilepticus, in a more or less continuous state. Further, Mr. Holt did not adopt any act at first to show that he had suspected atropine-poisoning. He did not administer an antidote. He did not even endeavour to secure the vomit for examination, which was one of the first things any medical man would have done who suspected poisoning.

His Honour said that struck him at the time.

Mr. Pearson (continuing) said, instead of going to the chemist at once and telling him he had given a deadly poison, Mr. Holt wrote to the superintendent of police, practically to prepare for an inquest. There were foims of ptomaine-poisoning which would have given the same symptoms, and some of the symptoms were not consistent with atropine poisoning. Mr. Pearson next argued that it was not proved that atropine had been administered by his client. He had never kept any in his shop, and he should say there was only one chemist in Malton who kept it—it was

so seldom wanted.

Mr. Estill, for the defendant, argued against a new trial. The case was that the plaintiff suffered from the defendant supplying him with a noxious substance, and that had been proved. Plaintiff went to defendant, who prescribed something immediately after taking which an injurious effect was found. Defendant said he prescribed 8 gr. of antifebrin, but according to the "Companion" to the British Pharmacopeia the proper dose was 1 to 3 gr. and surely a dose of 5, 6, 8, or 10 gr. was injudicious. Defendant was unauthorised to prescribe.

Ultimately his Honour granted a new trial for January 24. He allowed plaintiff to take out of court the costs in the previous hearing, and reserved the costs of the present

application.

CLAIM FOR GOODS SUPPLIED.

In the Westminster County Court on November 28, application was made in the case of Fox v. Hardy for the committal of the defendant, a chemist, carrying on business at Islington, for non-payment of a judgment debt in respect of goods supplied in the way of trade.

After hearing plaintiffs evidence, the Judge said he thought an order for 1l. a month was as much as defendant

could pay.

CONFLICTING TESTIMONY.

In the City of London Court on November 28, before Commissioner Kerr, an action was brought by Mr. Richard Green, trading as the Central Wholesale Photographic Supply, 31 Aldersgate Street, E.C., against Messrs. Elliott & Co., druggists, 192 Uxbridge Road, to recover 6s. 8d. for photographic goods supplied in December of last year. Mr. Elliott said the goods were never ordered by him They were taken by one of his assistants into his establishment. When the plaintiffs wrote about the matter he asked them for a statement, and after searching through his premises he found their goods. Then he told them they could have their goods back if they liked to send for them, and at the same time he repudiated all responsibility. Mr. Green said the defendant

had received several statements. Mr. Commissioner Kerr said that amounted to nothing. Mr. Green pointed out that it was not until nine months after the goods had been sent that they heard from the defendant that they were not ordered. Mr. Commissioner Kerr said he must have the order proved, and the case was adjourned in order that Mr. Baldock, plaintiffs' traveller, might be called to be cross-examined on oath.

High Court Cases.

TALLERMAN v. THE DOWSING RADIANT HEAT COMPANY (LIMITED).

In the Court of Appeal on November 29, before the Master of the Rolls, Sir Francis Jeune, and Lord Justice Romer, the case of Tallerman and the Patents Manufacturing Development Company (Limited) v. the Dowsing Radiant Heat Company (Limited) was heard on the appeal by the plaintiffs from an order of Mr. Justice Stirling, who had refused to grant an interlocutory injunction asked for by the plaintiffs.

Mr. Upjohn, in support of the appeal, said that the plaintiffs' business was that of supplying superheated dry air for therapeutical purposes, and the defendants, who carried on a similar business, were asked to be restrained from making use of testimonials and medical notes given to the plaintiffs for their own purposes, and to the detriment of the plaintiffs' reputation. The learned Judge in the Court below had found all the facts in the plaintiffs' favour, and found that the defendants had issued misleading pamphlets, but, sitting as judge of first instance, he was unable to grant the relief asked.

Mr. Ingpen, for the respondents, pointed out that he had offered to give an undertaking not to repeat the acts complained of, and to pay twenty-five guineas on account of costs. That offer he repeated, but if it was accepted his learned friend ought not to make use of these proceedings to advertise.

After some discussion, Mr. Upjohn agreed to accept the undertaking offered, and to take the sum named as costs, he on his part agreeing not to advertise the present proceedings for more than a month.

A CHEMIST'S SHARES. !

In the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court of Justice on November 30, an action came on for trial before the Lord Chief Justice and a special jury. It was brought by Mr. Isaiah Skewes, a chemist and druggist, of 2 Upper Street, Islington, against Mr. Arthur Coode and Mr. J. E. Veale, of St. Austells, in the county of Cornwall, to recover 150\(llowbreak,\) paid by the plaintiff to the directors of Veale & Co., electrical engineers, on application for 150 fully paid up shares in the company which had not been allotted. The defence was that the money was not paid to the defendants, but was paid to their bankers as agents; and, further, that before the plaintiff withdrew his application the money he had forwarded was paid to Messrs. Neale & Co.

After hearing counsel, the Lord Chief Justice said that as there was no suggestion that the directors could not allot when they had sent out the circulars, the plaintiff could not recover against the present defendants.

As a result of this a juror was withdrawn, this being the easiest way to end the proceedings.

The Pharmacy Act.

THE SALE OF NICOTINE.

At the London Mansion House Police Court on November 30 before the Lord Mayor, three summonses were heard, taken out by the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, against Jas. Wrench & Co. (Limited), seed-merchants, High Street, Borough. The first was for selling nicotine, the second for not registering the sale, and the third was for not labelling the bottle "Poi-on." Mr. Vaughan Williams, barrister, appeared for the Society, and Mr. Horace Avory for the defendants, who pleaded not guilty. Mr. Avory remarked that the summonses amounted to the same thing.

Mr. Williams: But there are three offences.

The Chief Clerk: It was my idea to have the three summonses.

Mr. Avory: I have no objection to having them heard together so long as I do not involve myself into three fines. Mr. Williams: I do not agree. It may be proved that there are three offences.

The Lord Mayor: Take them together and I will judge.

Mr. Williams said the summonses were taken out nnder Section 17 of the Pharmacy Act, and the offence was the sale of a poisonous vegetable alkaloid. The substance sold was called "XL vaporiser." It was vaporised in greenhouses to kill insects on plants. It contained 37 per cent. of nicotine. The second summons was-

Mr. Avory: I can stop a lot of the trouble that would arise by saying that the only question is, Is it a poison within the

meaning of the Act?

Mr. Williams: The Schedule to the Act mentions "strychnine and all vegetable alkaloids and their salts," and it is 'laid down that sales must be entered in a book. My friend appears to think it is not a poisonons alkaloid.

The Lord Mayor: If you admit it it will shorten the

Mr. Avory: I will admit that a bottle containing nicotine was sold.

The Lord Mayor: May I take it that the other formalities required by the Act were not observed?

Mr. Avory: They were not.

The Lord Mayor: You fully agree to that?

Mr. Avory: Yes.

Mr. Williams pointed out that the label on the preparation indicated that it contained nicotine in a highly-condensed state.

At this point the bottle was handed up to the Lord Mayor, who said: I hope the cork is in tightly. (Laughter.)

Dr. Thomas Stevenson was called to give evidence as to the composition of the vaporiser. He found that it was a solution consisting of 373 per cent. of nicotine, 345 per cent. of camphor, 151 per cent. of alcohol, and the balance water. In his opinion nicotine was a poisonous vegetable alkaloid. He experimented with a rabbit, and it killed it in two and a half minutes. It was dangerous to human life, and there was enough in the bottle to kill a thousand people if it had been swallowed. The alcohol and the water were to dissolve it, and the camphor to give it a strong smell.

Mr. Avory cross-examined witness to show that alcohol itself is a poison, then asked if tobacco is to be labelled "Poison," to which Mr. Williams replied in the negative, whereupon Mr Avory pointed out that all cigars contain nicotine, and questioned Dr. Stevenson on this point, the purpose of the questions being to show that if the sale of an insecticide containing nicotine is a sale of nicotine the

sale of tobacco is the same.

Witness replied that any preparation of a vegetable alkaloid that is poisonous comes under the Act, but no one would think of calling tohacco a preparation of nicotine.

The Lord Mayor: Do I understand you to say that a small

quantity is dangerous to human life?

Witness: Yes; 3, 4, or 5 drops would kill, according to the

power of the person.

Mr Avory: This is such a technical question that I should like to call some scientific evidence before I address

yon. Mr. Geo. Whiffin, F.I.O., was then called. He said he knew the preparation very well, as he was the mannfacturer of it. It was a preparation of nicotine mannfactured from tobacco, which is generally recognised as not poisonous. In the Schednle preparations of the vegetable alkaloids were not mentioned, but their salts. Some tobaccos contained per cent. of nicotine. In cross-examination by Mr. Williams, witness admitted that nicotine is a vegetable alkaloid, but would not commit himself to saying that it is poisonous. In making "XL vaporiser" he added alcohol to the nicotine.

Mr. Williams: Would you agree that a salt of an alkaloid may he an alkaloid?

Witness: No; it would be prepared from the base with

The Lord Mayor: This may be highly interesting to yon, Mr. Williams, but does it concern the case?

Mr. Williams: I will leave it.

Mr. Ernest John Parry, B.Sc., F.I.C., was next called. He

agreed with Dr. Stevenson. The bottle he analysed contained $35\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of nicotine. Asked if it is a poisonous vegetable alkaloid, he replied that he had bought the bottle as a preparation of nicotine, which it was. In crossexamination witness admitted that the preparation was compounded of nicotine, and was not a natural product. Nicotine was very well known as a poison.

Mr. Avory then addressed his Lordship for the defence, pointing ont that it was clear that the Schedule included some alkaloids with their preparations and in other cases no preparations were mentioned. He argued that this was the case with nicotine, therefore with the vaporiser, which was admitted to he a preparation of nicotine. It would be absord to include tobacco itself, which, like this article, contained nicotine, and if the sale of nicotine was to be condemned, so must the sale of tobacco he. This was not a case where there ought to be a straining of the Act. The vaporiser was not like soothing-syrnps or cough-medicines containing opium, and intended to he swallowed. It was only for fumigating, and to swallow it was the same as a boy getting hold of his father's cigar-box and swallowing half a dozen of the cigars.

The Lord Mayor: I am quite satisfied that this is a poison

within the meaning of the Act.

Mr. Avory: Will you state a case for the High Courts?

The Lord Mayor: Most certainly, if you wish it.

On the question of the three summonses arising, the Chief Clerk said: I am responsible for the three summonses being taken out. The Pharmaceutical Society came to me and wished to take ont one summons. I told them that they could not do so, that they must take out the three, and I still hold by my opinion.

At the suggestion of the Lord Mayor this question was left until after the Court of Appeal had settled the matter.

Mr. Avory appealed for a mitigation of the penalty. The Lord Mayor said on the first summons the defendants would be fined 5l. and 10l. 10s costs, and on the second and third 10s. each, with ordinary costs.

Mr. Avory: With leave to appeal?

The Lord Mayor: Yes. I may say that I consider it a very vague warning, that which is given on this bottle. It simply says that it is to be kept in a safe place out of the way of children, when it is a most deadly poison.

Mr. Williams: "Somewhat poisonous" is the description

on the hottle, my Lord.

The Lord Mayor: I should also hope that the sale of this deadly poison will be immediately stopped.

Mr. Williams: I expect the fine will have a salutary effect.

Mr. Avory: I may say they have already stopped the sale of it.

The Lord Mayor: I am glad to hear it, as I should say that such a deadly poison is of immense danger to human life. They should try to collect all the bottles that are now outstanding. I say it, as it is an urgent and very serious matter.

The proceedings then closed, and counsel and solicitors left the Court, but the Lord Mayor had Mr. Avory recalled to take away the bottle which had been in question, as he said he did not consider it safe to have such a deadly poison so near him.

Bankruptcies and Failures.

Re DAVID PATTERSON, Middle Street, Casbridge, Northumberland, Chemist and Druggist.

THE public examination of this debtor was resumed last week at the Newcastle County Court and again adjourned.

Re RAPHAEL C. HUMFREY, King's Heath, late 10 Hewlett Street, Oheltenham, and 94 Hunter's Road, Birmingham. THE following are creditors:-

		£ s.	d.
Barclay & Sons (Limited), London	•••	31 11	0
Barron, Harveys & Co, London		39 0	0
Brown, J. E. H., Birmingham		15 0	0
Evans, Lescher & Webb, London		24 0	1
Humfrey, Francis (Exors. of), Sutton	•••	26 17	6

Bazette.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Alkins, G., and Cosens, C. H., under the style of G. Ackins & O. H. Oosens, Paignton, Devonshire, medical practitioners.

Grosvenor, A. O., and Anderson, J. W., Priory Road, West Hampstead, N.W., and St. James's Mansions, West Hampstead, N.W., medical practitioners,

Ling, H. C., and Tyrle, C. C. B., under the style of Ling & Tyrle, Keighley, Yorkshire, profession of physic and surgery.

Wade, N., and Littlejohn, T. P., under the style of Wade & Littlejohn, Redditch and Astwood Bank, general medical practitioners.

THE BANKRUPTCY ACTS, 1883 AND 1890. ADJUDICATION.

Stewart, Bessle, Bradford, homeopathist, married woman, trading separately and apart from her hu:band.

ORDER MADE ON APPLICATION FOR DISCHARGE.

Williams, Ada Jane (described in the receiving order and carrying on business under the style of Williams & Co.), Precot, chemist, grocer, and wine and spirit dealer—that the bankrupt be and she is hereby discharged.

Hew Companies & Company Hews.

BOGNOR AND SOUTH COAST MINERAL WATER COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 2,500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of a mineral-water manufacturer carried on by J. Hughes at Bognor. The first directors are J. Hughes, W. H. P. Henry, F. E. Featherstonhaugh, and Dr. F. J. Rawlinson. Qualification 100*l.* Remuneration 25*l.* each per annum and a share in the profits.

SANDERS & AGUILAR (LIMITED).—Capital 60001, in 11. shares. Objects: To acquire the businesses carried on in London as 'Sanders & Aguilar' and "Sanders & Co.," and to carry on the business of glass, metal and fancy goods manufacturers, makers of lignozote, lacquers, varnishes, soaps &c The first directors are E. F. Sanders and H. F. Aguilar (managing directors), and others to be appointed by the subscribers. Remuneration of managing directors 2001. each per annum and a shale in the profits.

WM. BRIGGS & SONS (LIMITED).—Capital 15,000*l.*, in 5 000 ordinary and 10,000 preference shares of 1*l.* each. Onjects: To purchase the lands, works, machinery, and other mannfacturing apparatus and business property and profits of Wm. Briggs, manufacturing ohemist, Dnndee, and to carry on the business. First subscribers:—W. Briggs, manufacturing chemist; John Briggs, manufacturing chemist; James A. Briggs, manufacturing chemist; James A. Briggs, manufacturing chemist, all of Erskine Terrace, Dundee; Mrs. M. S. Philip or Briggs, 7 Sherbrooke Avenue, Pollokshields, Glasgow; J. B. Briggs, engineer, 7 Princes Street, Pollokshields, Glasgow; Mrs. Mabel J. Philip or Briggs, 4 Erskine Terrace, Dundee. Registered office, 13 Panmnre Street, Dundee.

CHEMISTS' DEFENCE ASSOCIATION (LIMITED).—Capital 10 0001., in 11 shares. Objects: To protect members against prosecution under any Act of Parliament particularly affecting chemists and druggists or dealers in proprietary articles, to defend members in any such prosecutions, and to carry on any kind of guarantee, insurance, mercantile information and similar business (except life insurance) The subscribers are:—P. F. Rowsell, 74 High Street, Exeter, chemist; W. R. Barnes. 10 Terrace Road, Plaistow, E. chemist; O. J. G. Bunker, 135 Great Dover Street, S.E., chemist and optician; T. P. Garrett, 33 Commercial Street, Newport, chemist; S. N. Pickard, 74 Manningbam Lane, Bradford, chemist; W. S. Glyn-Jones, Lennard House, Aveley, Essex, chemist; W. Johnston, 69 Longhborough Road, Brixton, S.W., chemist; and A. Cooper, F.C.S., 80 Gloucester Road, S.W., chemist. Registered without articles of association.

H. H. WARNER (LIMITED).—A meeting of this company was held at its offices on November 29, but our reporter was refused admission.

APOLLINARIS AND JOHANNIS (LIMITED).—The directors have declared an interim dividend on the preference shares at the rate of 5 per cent, per annum, and on the ordinary shares at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum.

A. & R. THWAITES & Co. (LIMITED) —The directors of this company of chemists and mineral-water mannfacturers, Duhlin, have declared a dividend on the ordinary shares of the company at the rate of 7 per cert, per annum and a borus of 3s. per share, both free of income tax. They place 1500l. to reserve, 500l. to premises referve, and carry 1,085l. forward. The result of the previous year's trading was 7 per cent. per annum dividend, bonus 2s. per share, 1000l. to reserve, 1,500l. to premises reserve, and 956l. carried over.

BRITANNIA WORKS (LIMITED).—A meeting of shareholders was held at Winchester Honse, Old Broad Street, E.C., on November 29, the Earl of Crawford (chairman of the company) presiding. In moving the adoption of the Report (see C. & D., November 25, page 880) the chairman s ated that the reserve fund for last year stood at 8,000%, whereas the year before it was nothing. The amount placed against "sundry" creditors was an increase of 4 000% over last year, which was entirely due to increase in the volume of business. The company was in a most satisfactory state, and even greater hopes were entertained of its funre prospects. The accounts and report of the directors were unanimonsly adopted.

DUBLIN MINERAL-WATER MANUFACTURING ASSOCIATION (LIMITED) — In the Chancery Division, Dublin, on November 29, an application was made on behalf of Messrs. Bewley & Draper, chemists and druggists, Mary Street, Dublin, for an order for the winding-np of this company. The petitioners were creditors to the extent of 1921, and it was stated that the assets of the association consisted of empty mineral-water bottles; and debts, it was believed, existed to the extent of 1000l. A revision of assets and the winding-np of the association by the Court were asked for. Mr. Jefferson, who appeared for the association, did not offer any objection, but asked that Mr. Shanks be appointed liquidator. The order was made.

ELECTROLYTIC ALKALI COMPANY (LIMITED). — This company has been formed, with a capital of 500,000%, to take over and work the patents for the Hargreaves-Bird electrolytic process for the production of alkali and bleaching powder. We have on several occasion had the opportnnity of describing and illustrating this process, and commenting upon it. The company now formed has a directorate consisting of Mr. John Barr, J.P., Mr. James Morrice, Glasgow. Mr. Alfred E. Fletcher, F.I.C. (late chief inspector of alkali-works), Colonel Z. J. Heys, J.P., Mr. William Thompson, FIC, of Manchester, and Mr. C. O Connor, J.P., ex Mayor of Belfast. The company invites subscriptions for 100,000 7 per cent. accumulative preference shares of 11. each, and 150,000 ordinary shares of 11. each. The parent company is to receive 100,000% for the rights which they hold, and a snm expected not to exceed 15.000% for land which has been acquired at Middlewich. Payment is to be made one-fourth in cash, a half in fully paid-up ordinary shares, and the rest partly in cash and ordinary shares at the option of the company. prospectus in full is printed in the advertisement section of this issue, and we need therefore only call attention here to the fact that Professor William Ramsay, Messrs. Cross & Bevan, Messrs. R. R. Tatlock, Public Analyst for the city of Glasgow, and other expert authorities give favourable opinions upon the capabilities of the process from the technical point of view, or as a commercial venture. It is proposed to erect works at Middlewich for carrying out the process, a full description of which will be found in our issue of Jply 23, 1898, page 120:

IDRIS & Co. (LIMITED).—The ordinary general meeting will be held at the office of the company, Pratt Street, Camden Town, N., on December 7, at 3 P M., at which the following resolution will be considered:—

That the capital of the company shall be increased from 150,000*l*. to 200,000*l*. by the creation of 50,000 new A Preference shares of 1*l*. each, which shall rank part passu in all respects with the existing 70,000 A Preference shares of 1*l*. each, and that clause 9 of the articles of association be modified accordingly.

The directors report that the profit for the past thirteen

months' trading, which the balance-sheet covers, is considerably in advance of that made during any previous corresponding period. After charging interest on the debenture stock and making full allowance for depreciation, the sum of 19027l. 11s. 3d. stands to the credit of profit and loss account, and the directors recommend 14,1911. 13s. 4d. of this amount to be distributed in payment of dividends as follows:—A Preference shares, 6 per cent., 4,550%,; B preference shares, 7 per cent., 758%. 6s. 8d; A and B ordinary shares. 10 per cent., 5,633% 6s. 8d; founders' shares, 5 per cent., 975l., leaving a surplus of 2,275l., to be applied as to one-third of the amount to increase the dividend on the A preference shares to 7 per cent. and the remaining twothirds to payment of additional dividend on the founders shares, and further remuneration to the directors for their services To the reserve fund (which will then stand at 29,000l.) 2,500l. is to be added; profit-sharing and benevolent funds benefit to the extent of 700l., and 1,635l. 17s. 11d. is carried forward to the next account. The business has increased so extensively that the erection of further oranches is contemplated by the directors in different parts of the country. The Southampton branch has led to an increase, and the business of the Liverpool branch has quite outgrown the accommodation; more extensive freehold premises have therefore been acquired. The growth of the company's business in Kent and adjoining counties has made it necessary to establish a branch, and premises for that purpose have been taken over at Canterbury. In order to carry out the purchase of these and other properties, and to provide the necessary buildings and meet the requirements of the business, a further issue of 20,000l. debenture stock has been made during the year. Of the 50,000 shares above-mentioned, it is only proposed to issue 30,000 at present, and these will be offered to the holders of A preference shares at a preminm of 4s. per share.

LEWIS & BURROWS (LIMITED).—At Winchester House, Old Broad Street. E.C., on November 29, a meeting of the shareholders of this company was held, presided over by Mr. J. R Brough. In moving the adoption of the report and accounts, the Chairman referred to a new branch which had been opened, and explained why it was done. At Crouch End and Kensington, he said, the company did business in keen competition with one of their largest rivals, but a mutual agreement was arrived at whereby the rival company closed its Kensington branch and they theirs at Cronch Ead By this arrangement they now had an improved position, and nearly all the old fixtures had been used in the fitting up of the new shop. With reference to the smallness of the stock (which stood at 18,093/., added to which was 683/. worth of advertising material), he reminded them that stocks were always low when it got towards the end of September, but they had now to take into consideration that they wanted a great deal more than hitherto owing to the fact that they had twenty-two shops as against eleven previously. At Christmas time immense stocks of fancy goods were absolutely necessary besides the ordinary drugs Under these circomstances, it had been thought wisest to issue the remaining 5 000%. worth of preference shares, as it would, besides putting them on a sounder basis, enable them to place a sum to the reserve against possible contingencies. Of these shares the directors themselves were quite prepared to take up 1,500 to 2,000, although they would not do so if the shareholders wished to take them up pro rata The shares would soon stand at a much advance price, and the 6 per cent. preference shares would be fetching 26s. and 27s. The ordinary shares in all probability would be making 6 per cent. or 7 per cent. next year. He also thought it would be advisable soon to issue the remaining 20,000 shares, as they could then get a much better Stock Exchange quotation. The branch managers had received a much larger snm in commission on sales than before, and the company possessed a number of very good proprietary articles, which up to the present they had not tried to advertise to any great extent. Hitherto they had not been at liberty to spend on advertising, but they intended to do so, as advertising undoubtedly paid.

Mr. Porter remarked on the fact that they had twenty-two shops, and yet they only showed a profit of 3,081. net. That seemed to him a small amount.

The resolutions were put to the meeting, and carried.

Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSEB.

THE FURY OF MILLAIS.—Mr. Barratt's rectification of Mr. J. G. Millais' story of the evolution of "Bubbles" from a family ploture into an advertisement for Pears' soap is as convincing as it is conrecous. Mr. Barratt was present at the interview between the famous painter and himself, and Mr. J. G. Millais was not. Moreover, Sir J. E. Millais was a man of the world, and it is difficult, and surely not pleasant for his admirers to think of him manifesting an impotent fury over an incident which was so distinctly a testimony to his telept and fame.

ART AND ADVERTISING .- But Marie Corelli and art idolators generally may calm their ruffled spirits. Notwithstanding the example of Messrs. Pears, who, it may fairly be assumed, have seen their money back from this particular enterprise, there is not likely to be much of a run on Royal Academicians for advertisement-designs. In the first place, it is only the wealthiest advertisers who can afford to indulge in them. Secondly, an R.A. is not likely to be the most amenable of employés. From a commercial point of view he is as likely as not to spoil the ideas of the advertisement manager. Finally, the advertisement to be got out of him lies chiefly in the glory of his name, and this benefit would decline in inverse proportion to the frequencies of the, appeal to it. "Bubbles" was a beautiful picture, and by lavish expenditure Messrs. Pears linked it in popular imagination with their product, so that wherever the curlyheaded little fellow with his wistful face appears the idea of the famous soap immediately follows. But, after all, "Bubbles" is only an indirect advertisement, and even as such it is far less striking than many others of unknown authorship, such as, for instance, the Bovril picture of the ox shedding a gigantic tear over the little bottle wherein his deceased brother is enshrined, or Ogden's caution to "Beware of Imitations" enforced by the representation of the ragged crossingsweeper in the footsteps of the dandy, both enjoying their favourite cigarettes.

DRUG COMPANIES' PROFITS.—The letter of "Anon," 179/69 (C. & D., November 25, page 882), is a timely contribution. A few pages before his letter the reports of two of the most prominent of English drug companies are summarised, and both show an improving financial position. Lewis & Burrows report a net profit of 3,0811. for the past nine months, against 1,7211. made in the preceding twelve months; while Boots (Limited) claim to have realised a net sum of 18,3711. as compared with 16,946l. in the previous year. "Anon's" point is the obvious but sometimes overlooked one that these profits are not exactly comparable with those which individual chemists make ont of their businesses. They are really surpluses after the living-expenses of the local manager (who replaces the chemist owner) have been paid, together with such extra expenses as those of directors, auditors, general manager, his and other people's travellingexpenses, and many other charges incidental to a company which do not fall upon individual chemists. The surpluses in the two companies quoted appear to average from 150l to 2001. per shop; this added to the manager's salary and the company costs yielding a better average probably than that of chemists and druggists generally. With a Lord Chancellor, members of Parliament, and a host of hungry shareholders of no use whatever to the business all picking at its profits, the company is heavily handicapped in its competition with the independent competent pharmacist and when the two are on perfectly equal terms commercially. as they will be ere long, the drug-company game will be played out.

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The Company Muddle.

THE Federation of Chemists' Associations has scored heavily this week. Without its unobtrusive aid it seems scarcely possible that the chemists in sixty towns should have arisen to simu'taneous speech on the company-question—now threatening to degenerate into a muddle. From every part

of the country fairly definite expressions of opinion have come to us, and these will, we presume, be considered by the Pharmaceutical Council next week. We do not imagine that the Council will be able then to do anything definite about the matter; it does not hold a high reputation for expedition in dealing with company-business, and it may be overwhelmed by the sixty resolutions which have been arrived at. Nor do we think that the Council is prepared to go forward to the Government with the resolution of the majority, which seems to be that the limited company principle should be excluded from pharmacy. Does anyone know a single individual on the Council who has the shadow of a hope that the Government or Parliament will aid us in that direction? The members of the Council know perfectly well that when they begin to speak to parliamentary representatives regarding the growth of the company-evil, they will be told that they have themselves to hlame for it by not acting energetically when the House of Lords, as the final court of appeal, indicated the serious omission in the Pharmacy Act. We believe the foregoing to fairly represent the condition in which the Pharmaceutical Council finds itself, and we are not sanguine that next week they will do anything of a decisive nature that is likely to allay the agitation in the trade.

If the reports which we print of the meetings held throughout the csuntry are carefully read it will be observed that where the directorate suggestion has been carefully and intelligently discussed the opinion was that it presents as satisfactory a solution of the difficulty as can be obtained. It is not ideal, neither is it inconsistent with the principle of the Pharmacy Act. Moreover, as Mr. Glyn-Jones has pointed out elsewhere, it accords with the suggestion made by Mr. Justice Bramwell in the Court of Appeal. It was then pointed out that a corporation as an entity could neither keep open shop nor sell poisons, but that it could employ qualified persons to sell the poisons, and that the directors were the keepers of the open shop This suggestion by the judge amounted to an invitation to the Pharmaceutical Society to prosecute the directors for keeping open shop, but, like some other hints that the Society has received since the Poisons Act came into force. it has been neglected. It may be too late now to try whether or not unqualified directors of limited companies keeping open shop for the sale of poisons can he held liable for infringement of the Pharmacy Act, but, at all events, it is not too late to ask the Legislature to distinctly say that the directors as the equivalent of individual keepers of the open shop, shall have the qualifications required by the Pharmacy Act.

And how can this or any other suggestion for remedying the evil be brought about? Certainly by chemists themselves only. We hear much of their power, but too little of its exercise. Last week we mentioned that a deputation from the Plymouth Chemists' Association had interviewed their local member in regard to the matter, and Mr. Mendl voluntarily offered to form one of a deputation to the Lord Chancellor, or the Government Department which is charged with the Companies Bill, in order to support the chemists' contention that their titles should be used by individuals only. Mr. Mendl was cautious not to say that he would, as a member of that deputation, support the contention that no corporation should be engaged in retail pharmacy, and thereby he was wise; for, after all, members of Parliament are party politicians, and occasionally they must do what the leaders of the party tell them. This should be borne in mind by chemists who interview their members of Parliament, and we think that every opportunity should be taken to get local members educated in the matter, and if possible their sympathies secured. We have had enough of resolutions, and a little more local action would not be out of place. The line of action might be to get members of Parliament to influence members of the Government in the direction which our leaders may indicate.

Education and Competition.

MR. N. H. MARTIN, the well-known pharmacist, is this year-Chairman of the Newcastle-on-Tyne Section of the Society of Chemical Industry, and, in opening the winter sessionthe other evening, he gave an inaugural address in which there were many points that interest the chemical and drug: trades. He spoke of education in relation to competition, and the views put forth were characterised by a commonsensedefence of British technical education, Mr. Martin especially deploring the current pessimism in regard to the decadence of British industries. He pointed out that when the trade of the British Empire, Germany, and the United States isclosely examined we find much in favour of our own country which pessimists overlook. For example, our exports to Germany exceed by many millions a year our imports from that Empire, while, if we deduct such natural products as cotton, petroleum, tobacco, timber, and food from our American imports, we find that our exports of manufactured goods to America run our imports of manufactured goods from that country very closely. In face of the high protective tariffs we have to contend with, that is a gratifying fact. It is impossible, Mr. Martin considered, that this continuance of commercial prosperity, so far as manufactured goods are concerned, could be if our technical education was much at fault. "How far," hesaid, "does the oft-repeated statement that England has had no technical education in the past accord with facts, and how does it come about that during the century which is rapidly coming to a close she has built up the colossal business which for the Empire now amounts to nearly 1,575,000,000% per annum, and that the revenue of the Empire is 275,000,0001?" In answer to this, he recalled the fact that the great exhibition of 1851 was evidence to the whole world of the capabilities of this country in regard to technical instruction, and in 1881, when the Royal Commission on Technical Education visited the schools and workrooms of the United Kingdom and other countries, the Commission found everywhere evidence of British skill, and manufacturers in our rival countries admitted that they had heen taught their trades by Englishmen. All along the line the Commission found that our great competitors in manufactured produce had followed British methods very closely, While submitting that in regard to technical education we have not much to deplore, Mr. Martin pointed out that no account had heen taken by the upholders of foreign systems of certain factors which have seriously interfered with our development in certain directions. Amongst such interferences within our own horders he mentioned trade unions (with their regulations affecting labour and capital), Excise regulations; and in other countries the existence of protective tariffs, of bounties paid to certain industries, of patents, and of differences in wages, cost of living, handicaps British industry considerably. As examples of the influence of Excise regulations in retarding the growth of industries, Mr. Martin gave the following:-

In one department of chemistry—viz., the manufacture of vegetable alkaloids, certain organic compounds and medicinal chemicals, where the use of duty-free pure spirit has turned the scale, Germany has allowed to accumulate over twenty years of theoretical and practical experience which has been denied to England. Where the question of the use of spirit, duty-free, was no part of the problem, as in the manufacture of morphine

chloroform, &c., Germany has never been able to compete with English manufacturers. A list could be given of substances affected by this cause alone, each of which is a small affair when compared with the alkali industry, but making in the aggregate a large portion of the volume of chemicals, the manufacture of which is credited to the superior chemical education of the German.

There was one substance which was affected by a kindred Custom-house regulation, but in which a wiser counsel turned the tables. When caffeine was first demanded in large quantities it was practically all made in Germany, and no English maker could compete in price; at the same time large quanties of tea not worth paying duty on were sent from London to the Continent and sold to the Germans. Owing to the exertions of the London Chamber of Conumerce, in which two past Presidents of the Society (Mr. Howard and Mr. Tyrer) took an active part, the Government allowed the tea to be denatured, and sold to our chemists at its then value. From that time Englishmen have held their own in the manufacture of caffeine and its salts.

In the manufacture of aniline compounds the Germans have decidedly gone ahead of us, but here again it was not solely a matter of education, although the experience to which I have alluded, and the demand for certain kinds of chemical knowledge may have helped them. The discovery of aniline dyes was made by a distinguished member of our Society, Dr. Perkins, and works on a commercial scale were started, but again Excise regulations and other difficulties not of an educational kind killed the industry before it was well established. There are signs, however, that in the near future Germany will not monopolise the aniline industry, although she must for a long time continue to reap the reward of having been foremost in the field.

Referring also to synthetic remedies, and taking antipyrin as the precursor of the class, Mr. Martin pointed out how the success of that article had tempted German chemical manufacturers in their efforts to get something to rival it, to prostitute science for commercial ends. He touched upon the labour influences which have interfered with trade development, and in the latter part of the address spoke exclusively of education, dealing especially with elementary or general education, advocating that it should be thorough, and that there should be some relief from the pernicious grant-earning influence which now dominates the Board and other schools. receiving Government influence. In regard to technical education, he was distinctly opposed to the purely theoretical method which has found favour within recent years, so far as it tends to minimise the importance of practical instruction. This is the direction in which Mr. Martin's address appeals most to pharmacists. Year by year the technical training in pharmacy, that is, practice in the operations associated with pharmacy as a business, is being relegated to the schools; and the tendency in chemical industries generally is to regard a college education as sufficient for posts of direction, whereas it is more than ever necessary that the directors of our industries should have the actual business working experience which their forefathers had, plus that scientific knowledge which college education imparts, and which is so potent a factor in helping us to meet competition. The kindred remarks made by Mr. Claridge Druce at the Holborn Restaurant last Saturday evening deserve emphasis in this connection. Mr. Druce complains, as we have often done, that pharmaceutical botany and pharmaceutical chemistry are being squeezed out of our examinations, and that the more general science which takes their place diminishes the interests of our students in the actual practice of pharmacy, with the result that the Minor and Major certificates of the present day, though representing stiffer examinations, do not guarantee better pharmacists than those of ten or twenty years ago. This is as deplorable as is the grumbling pessimism which Mr. Martin decries, and a remedy for it is urgently needed.

The Sale of Ecbolics.

THE decision in 'he "Madame Frain" case, in which five persons have been found guilty of conspiring to incite women to attempt to administer to themselves noxious things with

intent to procure miscarriage, is of far-reaching incidence. It will be remembered that in the spring of this year the "Madame Frain" people were summoned for a similar offence, but the case was dismissed, and the fact that the Crown returned to the charge in spite of the initial failure is in itself significant of the determination to put down an extensive and growing social evil. It would be improper for us to discuss the ethics of the practice which is now declared to be illegal; nor is it necessary to attempt to measure the magnitude of the evil, for our correspondence indicates that the frequent and unremitting demand for such noxious medicines has become a real embarrassment to chemists and druggists, many of whom have found their refusal to supply the demand a menace to their business. By such the verdict will be especially welcomed. But it also places retail chemists in a state of doubt as to what they are to do regarding the sale of many old-fashioned special preparations for the relief of "female-irregularities." It will therefore, serve a good purpose to call attention to the points of the case which has just been decided, and to show wherein they may be considered to differ from the sale of legitimate preparations.

It should, in the first place, be observed that the "Madame Frain" business was of an exceptional alluring character. It was largely, if not mainly, conducted by correspondence with women who desired to relieve themselves of the supposed incubus of impending maternity. Suggestive advertisements attracted females, and these were supplemented by numerous "testimonials" which sufficed to make women suppose that other women had taken the medicines when they were pregnant and they produced "the desired effect." Moreover, there was inducement to try stronger varieties of the medicines if the weaker did not act in the way wanted. These conditions constituted incitement, which appears not to have been palliated in the eyes of the jury by the fact submitted on behalf of the defendants, that they required their correspondents to give a signed declaration that they were not pregnant-a provision which in the circumstances many desperate women would comply with. But the conditions were, it is obvious, entirely different from those attending the sale of remedies which are generally used for a legitimate purpose, and the abuse of which is neither encouraged by the makers nor retailers. Here we may note that ergot and savin were placed upon the poisonschedule, not because they are poisons in the sense that strychnine and opium are, but because they may be used for criminal purposes; and they were placed in the first part of the schedule in order that as much difficulty as possible should be put in the way of their sale. This does not prohibit the employment of the remedies in cases of menstrual irregularities. The scheduling has served to restrict the use of the emmenagogues largely to medical prescription, and retail sales of them or of their preparations, unless in questionable businesses, are rare.

In the course of the legal discussion at the Central Criminal Court on Friday a second important point arose. This was in regard to what is and what is not a noxious thing. It was alleged on behalf of the defendants that the drugs given could not produce abortion, and, therefore, although some women who took them thought they would, the defendants could not be said to have incited them to a criminal act. On this point Mr. Justice Darling gave a clear expression of opinion, and we quote his remarks here:—

Whether the thing taken was or was not capable of procuring abortion, a woman who took it for the purpose of procuring abortion and in the belief that, it would procure abortion was in law guilty of an attempt to procure abortion; but if the thing given was itself innocuous and not capable of being a noxious drug

within the statute, such as a glass of water pure and simple, the person who gives it must be taken to know that it was not a noxious thing, and, therefore, to have given it to the woman with the knowledge and belief that it would not procure abortion. Therefore, there would not be in him any guilty intention. But in this case there is evidence that the drugs, and especially the pills, which were supplied to these women were not a harmless thing but were supplied to these women were not a farmless thing but were things capable of procuring abortion—capable of being a noxious drug within the meaning of the statute as interpreted by the ruling of the Court in the case of "The Queen v. Cramp," which has been acted on in other cases. Therefore, that there was an offence, whether the thing was harmless or not, and whether the inciting person knew it to be harmless or not.

The evidence referred to included that of Dr. Luff, F.R C P., who, at the request of the Treasury, had analysed bottles of Madame Fraia's medicine and a box of the pills, and found that there was nothing in the bottles of mixture which could act as an abortive agent, but that the pills, if taken in excessive quantities, would be very dangerous for a pregnant woman to take, and might bring about abortion. The pills contained aloes and iron amongst other ingredients, and they were said to become noxious when taken in the repeated doses directed by the defendants. It is well known that strong purgatives, especially large doses of aloes and iron, induce such violent intestinal action that the uterus may sympathetically discharge its contents. Chemists should, therefore, be exceedingly careful in regard to the sale of such preparations. So far as their own preparations are concerned they will have no difficulty, but proprietary preparations require careful inspection, for some of them are recommended for "female-irregularities" in terms for which the re ailer is in no way responsible, except toat he may distribute the handbills or pamphlets advertising the remedies. Mr. Justice Darling severely commented upon the way in which such articles are advertised, and his warning to proprietors, editors, and printers of newspapers containing the advertisements is undoubtedly applicable to those who distribute other forms of advertisement. We expect that proprietors of medicines which are not usually advertised in the objectionable fashion referred to by the Judge will revise their advertising-literature. That is a duty which they own to the retail drug-trade, as well as to their own honesty of purpose.

BRITISH PHARMACEUTICAL CONFERENCE.

We would remind London chemists, both wholesale and retail, who are interested in the meeting of the British Pharmaceutical Conference which is to be held in London next year, that a preliminary meeting of the trade will be held at 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., on Wednesday next, December 6, at 3 P.M , when a Committee of arrangement will be appointed. Those who are not able to attend the meeting, and who wish to express their sympathy, should address either of the Secretaries, Mr. W. Warren and Mr. H. Cracknell, at the above address, or they may send their cheques to Mr. J. H. Mathews, 68 Queen's Gardens, Hyde Park.

SHEEP-SCAB.

The Board of Agriculture has issued an illustrated leaflet in regard to the treatment of sheep-scab, which is rather prevalent at the present season. Copies of the leaflet can be obtained on application to the Secretary, 4 Whitehall Place, London, S.W. The following is an interesting and useful paragraph: "Since the life-history of the sheep-scab parasite has a very important practical bearing upon that part of the Sheep Scab O der in 1898 which deals with the dipping of sheep, it should be explained that the mature female after having laid from 15 to 24 eggs dies and the eggs are hatched in about seven days, the young parasites becoming sexually mature in about eight days, and another generation of eggs being laid fourteen or fifteen days after the first. Effective dipping with a suitable dip kills the acari, but may not destroy the vitality of the ova. It will thus be seen that not only do the acari rapidly multiply, but that it is necessary, if the disease is to be completely eradicated from the flock, that the sheep should be dipped a second time not later than the 14th day; for, whilst the first dipping might have killed all the acari, their ova may not have been destroyed, and hence a second dipping becomes necessary to kill the produce of these ova."

THE NEW GERMAN PHARMACOPŒIA.

The fourth edition of the German Phaimacopæia will not appear this year, but the Federal Council has decided to make known some of its principal contents, especially the new preparations. With this object the President of the Pharmacopæia Commission (Privy Councillor Köhler) has given particulars of the changes. Twenty-five new preparations have been proposed-viz.:-

Adeps lanæ anhydricus Æther. pro narcosi Arecolinum hydrobromicum Bismutum subgallicum Caffeino-natrium salicylicum Gelatina alba Hydrastinum hydrochloricum Oleum camphoratum forte (1 + 4) Oleum santali Pyrazolonum phenyldimethyl-

icum Salicylicum

Serum antidiphthericum

Unguentum adipis lanæ Adeps lanæ cum aqua Alcohol. absolutus Baryum chloratum Bromoformium Hydrargyrum salicylicum Pilulæ ferri carbonici Blaudii Semen erucæ Tela depurata Tuberculinum Kochi Oleum chloroformi (1 + 1) Vinum Chinæ (quininæ) Caoutchouc

The greatest iunovation is in the descriptions of drugs, mostly being now bought either cut or in powder. A full description of entire parts, which was formerly given, is useless; therefore stress will be laid on the anatomical and microscopic tests. In general, all the tests are stricter and the purity requirements greater. The new formula for adhesive plaster will be:-

Lead plaster ... Hard paraffin... Liquid paraffin 2.5 ••• ••• ••• 2.5 ••• 35 Resin Dammar ... ••• ... ••• Caoutchouc 10, dissolved in benzin 75, to be heated until the benzin has evaporated.

The introduction of caoutchouc into plasters is new for the Ph.G.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO SOCIETIES.

The Linnean Society has sued one of its members for payment of annual dues, and has succeeded in the action. This is, we believe, the first occasion in which a learned society has taken proceedings of this character, and the decision is rather important. The defendant in this case was a pharmacist, whose ability to pay was not questioned, an many other pharmagists connected with such societies would do well to notice where their liability begins and ends. It is the custom of some societies to continue sending their journals to their fellows or members for some time after the subscriptions have expired; and if the persons receive the journals, whether they use them or not, they give the societies ground for considering that they mean to continue their subscriptions. In many instances this may not be the intention of the individuals, but when they find that they have incurred the liability they acquiesce. It is therefore advisable when any person wishes to cease being a member of any society to inform the secretary in writing of the fact, and not receive any publications after the subscription has expired. We may add that the Chemical Society has recently adopted the businesslike course of stopping the supply of its journal as soon as the fivancial year is up, and until subscriptions are renewed, the result being advantageous both to the Society and those of its fellows who mean to pay, but need a stiff reminder that they are debtors to the Society.

General Medical Council.

THE autumn session of the Council commenced on Tuesday, November 28, and was opened as usual by an address from the President, Sir Wm. Turner, who is eminently businesslike, and contented himself with reviewing very briefly the progress which had been made since the last meeting, and touching on the matters on the programme, which at the outset does not promise much of interest, although the medical journals have foreshadowed a report on the employment of unqualified dispensers by medical men. The Education Committee is to present a report on the Preliminary examination, Rev. G. W. Sharp, Prof. McCormick, and Dr J. McGrath, representing each division of the United Kingdom, having assisted the committee in the matter. To this and other matters which are to come before the Council during the session the President briefly alluded, without, however, giving specific information as to the decisions which have been arrived at; therefore, we save our space for the actualities of the meeting, and shall deal with the President's points as they are disposed of by the Council.

ARMY DOCTORS.

The yearly tables showing the sonrce and examination standard of candidates for appointments in the Army Medical Staff and Indian Medical Service were submitted after the President had heen thanked for his address. For 28 appointments in the Army there were 17 candidates, of whom 5 had University degrees. All passed, but 3 were not appointed because they had not obtained the compulsory aggregate of marks. Two were Irish licentiates, and one a Dablin graduate. In the Indian Service there were 23 vacancies and 25 candidates. In this case 17 of the candidates were University graduates. Three of the candidates failed. One of them was an Irish double qual. man, another an Edinburgh graduate, and the third a graduate of the Royal University of Ireland.

There was a vote of thanks to the Government anthorities for these returns, and it gave Mr. Brown the opportunity of calling attention to the large proportion of candidates from the Irish colleges who were rejected. Whilst only 1 out of 6 candidates from Edinburgh was nnsuccessful, 5 out of 6 from Ireland failed.* He moved that the matter be referred to the Examination Committee for consideration.

Dr. Glover seconded.

Dr. McAlister pointed out that all had qualified, and had been nnsuccessful only because there were no vacancies.

Sir C. Nixon said that the service was not particularly popular in Ireland, and good men did not present themselves at the examinations. To refer the matter to the Examination Committee would waste time and do no possible good.

Dr. Atthill suggested that the candidates taught at Irish colleges were examined by English and Scotch examiners, and that each class of examiner had his own particular way and might in some degree vary. He thought Mr. Brown had found a mare's nest.

Dr. McVail and Dr. Bruce supported Mr. Brown, but Sir Richard Thorne protested that the Council had plenty of

work without seeking for more.

Mr. Tichborne did not like the idea that seemed to prevail that the lower strata in Ireland songht the Army service, and the crême de la crême avoided it. He believed that the candidates made as good medical men as they did soldiers, and that was saying a great deal.

Sir Dyce Duckworth, as Chairman of the Examination Committee, did not relish the idea of going into the matter.

Mr. Brown replied with mnch spirit, but failed to get more than six to support him, and there were eighteen against.

DEATH-REGISTRATION.

On the motion of Mr. Carter it was agreed that the President should request the President of the Local Govern-

ment Board to receive a deputation from the Council to nrge the advisability of early legislation in regard to deathcertification. In the course of his speech on the subject, Mr. Carter said that in certain districts of England a vast number of deaths occurred which were never properly certified by registered medical men. The Registrar was empowered to accept information from almost any source and there was reason to believe that, among the very large number of cases in which no proper certificate was given, were many deaths of children, cansed criminally, but escaping detection in consequence of the farilities afforded by the present system. The Registrar-General, as a result of correspondence with the Council, recommended that a greater number of inquests should be held; but inquests are expensive and unpopular. Dr. Glover, who seconded the motion said it was painful to think how many people died in this Christian country of England, and even in the more Christian country of Scotland—("Oh!" and laughter)—and got into their graves without having had the benefit of medical assistance. This was especially true of the two helpless ends of life. In some parts of Inverness-shire, in the course of five or six years, over two thousand persons died without medical attendance. This state of things had lasted for years, and, unless they succeeded in impressing the Local Government Board with the urgency of the matter, it was likely to go on many more years. Six years ago a Parliamentary Select Committee got together all the material necessary for sound legislation.

The President said, with reference to the number of uncertified deaths, he was reading the other day one of the latest, if not the very last report of the Registrar-General for Scotland, wherein it was stated that in 1898 70.677 deaths occurred in Scotland; of these 68 168 were certified, and 2,509, or 36 per cent., were uncertified. The proportion in England was probably as great, and it was not un-

likely that it was greater.

Mr. Brown said that in many cases deaths were registered by the unqualified practitioner who attended the persons, such as chemists and others. He had in his mind one case in particular of a chemist with a very large practice, who attended cases, and then gave the certificates of the deaths of persons under his care. It should be put before the authorities that no chemist should hold the appointment of registrar of deaths.

The President inquired who had appointed the chemist to whom Mr. Brown had alluded.

Mr. Brown did not know.

Sir R. Thorne undertook to learn from the President of the Local Government Board whether the deputation could be received within the next few days.

The next business was in reference to

RESTORATIONS

The Executive Committee recommended that the names of Robert Masters Theobald (removed in 1894) and Goorge Hamilton Wyse (removed in 1898) be restored.

Samuel F. Murphy (removed in 1895), R. A. D. Lithgow (removed in 1897), and W. J. Patterson (removed in 1897), also applied for restoration, but their names have not been restored.

This was all the important formal business on Tuesday, but before the Council adjourned at 4 P.M., in order to enable committees to complete their work, there was

A SET-TO

between Mr. Brudenell Carter and Mr. Victor Horsley.
The matter arose on the following resolution:—

The Executive Committee having had its attention directed to certain statements recently made respecting the constitution of the Society of Apothecaries of London, one of the bodies represented on this Council, and the action of the representative of that body on the General Medical Council, recommend to the Council that Mr. Brudenell Carter should be afforded an opportunity to reply to these statements in his place at the Council.

Mr. Carter said that for the last two or three years his conduct and opinion had been made the subject of adverse criticism, chiefly from Mr. Horsley, which had not always been founded on fact. His long connection with the Council and his many years of practice made him content to ignore these denunciations, and for a long time he had maintained absolute silence. In August last, however, a

^{*} This is not quite right. Four Irish double-qual. candidates competed for the Army appointments, and two were successful, and oue qualified, but was unsuccessful. One with the same diploma failed for an Indian appointment. One Dublin University graduate was unsuccessful for the Army, and one R.U.I. man failed for the Indian. There were 12 Scotch candidates, of whom, as already stated, one failed.—ED.

passage appeared in the Medical New Quarterly, in an article signed by Mr. Horsley, stating that "Mr. Carter, for example, the representative of the Apothecaries' Society, is not elected by medical men at all, but by a few druggists and other persons who style themselves the Master and Wardens of the Apothecaries' Society, and who know as much about medicine as they do about bootmaking" In the British Medical Journal appeared the statement: "We have the spectacle of a seat on the Medical Council being occupied by the representative of a haudful of City grocers." The Medical Guild also said that he (Mr. Carter) did not represent a licensing body at all. These attacks on the Apothecaries' Society were such that he had no option but to reply and to clear it and himself from imputatious. There was not one single word of truth in these allegations, and Mr. Carter proceeded to reply seriatim. The Society of Apothecaries was framed on the hasis of City companies-the Master and Wardens were not self-styled, but were so styled in the charter granted to them by James II. All the members had since 1815 consisted of medical men, liceused by the Royal College of Surgeons, and had various additional qualifications from the Universities, which Mr. Carter eunmerated. He asked the Conucil to consider whether such statements regarding a Society as that which had had the entire superintendence and control of the medical education of the whole body of practitioners for the last forty-three years, and had conducted it not only without reproach, but with satisfaction, as had been shown by the renewal of their charter in 1858, and again in 1886, could have been circulated in good faith-whether ordinary credulity was capable of accepting them. Surely a person who did so had reached the zero of human intelligence. Mr. Carter also alluded to the repeated attacks made on him by Mr. Horsley with regard to the prosecution of Mr. Hunter-he (the speaker) was not chairman of the committee which instituted it—and complained of the reports given in the medical papers of the last meeting of the Council, and of the facilities they offered to Mr Horsley for his abuse whilst they suppressed his (Mr. Carter's) replies.

Mr. Horsley said that Mr. Carter was perfectly right in carrying out the instructious of his Society. It had been established that his (Mr Horsley's) description of that body, as at present constituted, was not justified, and he therefore begged to apologise for having inadvertently misrepresented them. But this was not germane to the point, which was this: that in his opinion Mr. Carter had no right to speak of himself as representing the Society of Apothecaries, as he was not elected by the licentiates, &c. On this point he insisted. Mr. Carter said that the work of that Society had been carried ou without reproach; here, agaiu, he (the speaker) had his opinion, and it did not agree with Mr. Carter. He spoke advisedly, as he knew perfectly well the reputation of the Society amougst students. Whether or not chairman of the committee, Mr. Carter was in the chair at the committee meeting, and if he had the fact before him that Mr. Hunter was au LSA., he was primarily responsible for leading the Council to think Mr. Hunter nothing better than an American quack, and to prosecute him on that count. On this point he had nothing to withdraw or to apologise for.

MIDWIFERY CERTIFICATES.

Mr. Brown cccupied the Council during most of the Wednesday's sitting with a motion the first part of which was directed against the London Obstetrical Society holding examinations in or grauting certificates for midwifery, and the second to prevent any registered practitioner taking part in any examination or granting certificates for midwifery or any other branch of medicine or surgery, by judging him guilty in so doing of "infamous conduct." Mr. Brown urged that imposing diplomas (one of which about the size of a page of the Times he exhibited) were issned by self-constituted societies certifying proficiency in the treatment of abnormality of vision or for massage or midwifery; and women, after thirteen week, training at a lying-in hospital, had a brass plate on their door, perhaps callod themselves LOS (Liceutiate of the Loudon Ohstetrical Society), and went about the country armed with these certificates, leading people to suppose they were as good as medical men. He did not object to nurses being educated, but these examinations differed little from those

which medical students passed, and that was, Mr. Brown evidently felt, going much too far. The President reminded Mr. Brown that the certificates issued by the Obstetrical Society were not diplomas; they simply stated that the holder had passed its examination, and conferred no licence. Mr. Horsley seconded the motion, and thought the Council had an opportunity of reconsidering its attitude with regard to certificates without the heat engendered by the discussion when it was brought np in 1894 He sympathised with the object of the Obstetrical Society, which had striven to raise the education of midwives, but felt that it was quite mistaken in issuing certificates of the nature of a diploma. For "midwifery" he suggested that the word "nursing" should be used. Sir R. Thorne led the coutrary side with much warmth, pointing out that the Council was itself responsible for the word "midwifery," and that it had again and again urged the desirability of examinations and had agreed that midwives should be certificated, and repeatedly pressed upon the Government the necessity for legislation on the matter. To go back now on what they had said and done for the last twenty years would be an unworthy act and would deserve the reprobation it would receive. It would be a cruel wrong to poor women to say that in cases of natural and normal labour they must not call in a midwife but be compelled to pay a doctor's fee, moreover it would be absord; and as to ascribing "infamous conduct" to those distinguished men who were doing what the Council had been streuuously urging, that would be a monstrous thing. The discussion was continued with some vigour, and ultimately the amendment was negatived by 14 to 6, and the original motion was shelved by 21 to 5.

"ONE PORTAL."

Three more notices of motion stood on the agenda in Mr. Brown's rame, but Mr. Brown wished to postpone them. This was vigorously objected to, and after the expeuditure of a good deal of time and argument leave was refused. Mr. Brown's first motion was to the effect that the medical corporations of the kingdom should combine to form a conjoint qualifying board with the universities.

Another hitch occurred for want of a seconder, until Dr. Bruce "obliged," and that was all the support that the idea got.

Mr. Brown's uext motion was for the London colleges to combine with the Apothecaries' Society. On this Sir J. Batty Tuke raised a point of order as to whether a motion on the paper might thus anticipate the action of the Council, it being introduced "in the event of the previous motion being rejected." This was decided in favour of Mr Brown, who recalled the fact that the colleges absolutely refused to combine with the apothecaries as contemplated by the Act of 1866. Fortunately for the apothecaries the Legislature, foreseeing the possibility of friction, gave the Council authority to appoint examiners in that event. He want fully into the history of the whole matter. Mr. Horsley seconded his motion. Dr Macalister, Mr. Teale, Dr. Pye Smith, Sir Dyce Duckworth, Mr. Carter, and others took part in the debate which ensued A general opinion was expressed in favour of the "oue portal" system, but various objections were taken to the terms or the time of the resolution It was suggested that the University Commission now sitting might give the "whole loaf," or, in Sir Dyce Duckworth's words, that such fusion might be part of their decision. In view of this impending legislation the motion was regarded as singularly opportune and as singularly inopportune, according to the views of speakers, and Mr. Brown carried his motion by 11 to 8. Eight did not vote. He next moved a similar resolution in regard to Ireland, but after a tedious debate the

Amongst the business to be transacted are several interesting cases of questionable professional conduct, amongst them a report in regard to a well-known provincial chemist-dentist. The meeting will be continued day by day until next week.

motion was withdrawn.

[&]quot;I OWE my success as a chemist and druggist to following your market-reports and acting by them, and also by keeping myself posted in pharmaceutical progress generally through your pages." Thus writes a subscriber for a quarter of a century (114/35). How many more could say the same?

For the Defence.

Further Proceedings in Connection with the Chemists' Defence Association (Limited).

BIRMINGHAM.

LARGELY-ATTENDED MEETING of the members of A the Midlaud Pharmaceutical Association was held at the Great Western Hotel on November 23, to hear what Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones had to say about the defence-scheme, which was fully outlined in our last issue. Mr. Glyn-Jones

having spoken, a discussion ensued.

Mr. W. Jones (ex-President of the P.A.T.A.) opened it. He said he was glad that the old Birmingham Trade Association, of which he was one of the executive committee, had been revived in this form. He was only doubtful whether a subscription of 10s. 6d. would be sufficient, for a great many cases would crop up calling for the assistance of the Association. The old Association was wrecked on its subscription of 5s. He commended Rule 14 of the new Association, which provides that no one can obtain any benefit unless his subscription has been paid for three months, because in the old Association a man very often sent his subscription after he had received a visit from the inspector.

Mr. A. Southall did not think the 5s. subscription alone was responsible for the old Association falling through; the was responsible for the old Association failing through, the cause was, to a large extent, lack of zeal among the members. He had no doubt the Defence Association would prove a great blessing to chemists and druggists if it was properly supported. But they must not be content to support it for a few years and then allow it to drift; it must be a permanent association, and ought to be supported by at least half the chemists of the country. (Hear, hear.) Personally, he did not agree with the view Mr Jones took of Rule 14; he always thought it was rather a good thing to frighten chemists into becoming members of the Association, aud, if he might make a suggestion, it would be that that rule be altered, so that the visit of the inspector might have its due effect on the chemist.

Replying to a question by Mr. F. A. Spear, Mr. W. Jones said the membership of the old Association was 5,000. The original subscription was 10s., but, with a view of covering a larger area, it was reduced to 5s, and the work increased to such an enormous extent that the expenses

more than swallowed the income.

A member asked if the Defence Association would defend in the case of an action for, say, tooth-extraction, or in a case where a man was wilfully in the wrong—such, for instance, as making camphorated oil with mineral oil.

Mr. W. Jones said the old Association would not have taken up a case in which a man wilfully broke the law.

Mr. Spear asked if the analytical chemist who was to be appointed would take an analysis of samples for the benefit of members gratis or at a nominal fee?

Mr. F H Alcock, who spoke as one outside retail pharmacy, thought an association of this kind could be made of

the greatest value to the retail pharmacist.

Mr. Glyu-Jones, in reply, said so far as possible they had learned their lesson from the old Association, and avoided its pitfalls. They had avoided unnecessary committees, and tried to arrange that everything should be as simple as possible. A letter a king for advice would be passed to the solicitor for his opinion. If the solicitor advised that a particular label was not liable to stamp-duty, the Association would certainly protect the user if action was takeu. He thought it was well worth their while fighting some of these cases, instead of paying what Somerset House asked them to pay for the time being. One important difference between this Association and the old one was that in addition to protection against prosecutions they were also prepared to insure members against risks from accidents occurring through dispensing or retailing medicines. He did not think the Society would be prepared to take up an action for tooth-extraction, because that was scarcely their proper work. The chemist who extracted a tooth ran a great deal more risk of prosecution than a qualified dentist, although he might do it equally well. The object of Rule 14 was exactly as Mr. Jones had stated. They did not want men

to join the Association when they were actually in difficulties, and by paying 10s. 6d. get 10l worth in return. With reference to the question as to what would happen in the case of a man who wilfully broke the law, he reminded them that the Association did not undertake to pay any fine or costs of prosecutiou. All they undertook to do was to provide a man with a defence, either through their own solicitor, or analyst if necessary, or they would vote a sum, to the extent of 10l., with which a defendant could provide his own defence. A man was entitled to a defence, and they had no right to say a man was guilty until he had been tried. But if it transpired that the man was wilfully wrong the committee would have power to say whether he would be retained as a member of the Association. With regard to the question of analysis, that, he thought, was a matter which might very well be entertained. One point he was pleased to see brought forward prominently of latethe difficulty between wholesaler and retailer, and the question of the invoice being a warrantv. He quite saw the point of view of the wholesaler: he considered it rather hard that he should be held responsible for goods which perhaps bad left his place two or three or more months before the goods were actually analysed. But when the wholesaler gave a warranty he only warranted that the goods were of the nature and substance demanded when they left his own premises, and it was for the defendant to prove, if he could, that when he sold the goods they were in the condition in which they were when he got his warranty. They had had a case recently in which a wholesaler was successfully proceeded against for supplying a retailer with that which was not of the nature and substance demanded. Meantime the benefits of the Association would be confined to the retail trade, though he was not prepared to say that some satisfactory arrangement might not be come to whereov they might ask wholesalers

The President (Mr. Jeffrey Poole) was of opinion that the scheme would appeal strongly to Birmingham, where they had been touched up by the authorities and troubled about very trivial cases. Samples had been taken of drugs aud tiuctures that were rarely used, and with regard to which it was hardly fair to trouble chemists. He moved a resolution of sympathy with and support of the Association, which was

unanimously carried.

COLCHESTER.

A representative gathering of chemists was held at the Red Lion on November 21, under the auspices of the local Chemists' Association, when Mr. William Johnston, pharmaceutical chemist, Assistant Secretary of the P.A.T.A., explained the objects and modus operandi of the new Association, and auswered a number of questions on special points. Mr. Weddell pointed out that ia one of the rules relating to defeuce it was provided that the costs of prosecution would not be refunded by the Association, and inquired if that applied also to the insurance section. Mr. Johnston replied that it would not Iu a civil action for damages brought against a member, if the member lost his case after being defended by the Association, all out-ofpocket expenses up to 500?. would be borne by the Association. If the plaintiff lost, he would have to pay the expenses on both sides, or, if each side was ordered to pay its own expenses, the member's would be paid by the CDA.

Mr. Shenstone strongly recommended that the rule as to non-payment of costs of prosecution in defence cases should not apply in any case which the directors decided to take to the Courts of Appeal. He thought in such cases the costs of prosecution ab initio should be paid. He also suggested that when half the authorised capital had been subscribed a larger reserve than 1,000% should be kept in hand.

Mr Johnston promised to lay the recommendations before the directors, with a view to getting the two rules altered, if thought desirable, at the first general meeting of share-holders. An approving resolution was passed, and a number

of those present joined the C.D.A.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

Mr. Johnston also attended the meeting of the Yarmouth Chemists' Association on Thursday evening, November 23, at the Angel Hotel, and explained the new organisation.

Mr. Shearman demurred a little to the rule which prevents

a member from benefiting till he has been three months in the Association, and Mr. Johnston replied that there were two good reasons for tbis. (1) It was of the utmost importance that the directors should be in a position financially to meet legal liabilities as soon as they arose. The three months' arrangement would enable them to get prepared for work by the end of that period. (2) The rule was also partly defeusive. It would not be fair if a chemist could rush off to the C.D A and join directly he had a visit from an inspector or directly he got into some trouble covered by the insurance clauses. However, if the pioneer shareholders liked to relax the conditions a little after a time, it would be quite open to them to do so at any of their annual or special general meetings.

Mr. Shearman admitted there was force in these reasons, but still thought that in the case of a lapsed member three months was too loug. He considered one month over and above the month of grace ample time for the postponement

of benefits.

After some further questions Mr. Roberts remarked from the chair that the Yarmouth Association should postpoue its verdict on the subject until December 7, and this was agreed to.

WOLVEBHAMPTON.

At the meeting of Wolverhampton chemists on Monday evening (p. 903), Mr. Johuston explained the scheme, and it was resolved—

That this meeting of Wolverhampton chemists, having considered the objects and constitution of the Chemists' Defence Association, expresses its approval of the same, and regards the Association as a boom to the trade.

IPSWICH.

A representative meeting of the chemists of Ipswich was held on November 29, at the Great White Horse Hotel, a famous Dickeus house. Mr S. R. Anness occupied the chair Mr. W. Johnston, of the PAT.A. and C.DA., attended, and explained the Prospectus of the new Association.

A number of questions were afterwards asked and answered, amougst them one by Mr. Ridley: "What guarantee has a member that he will receive 500% from the C D.A. if sued for that amount, and awarded it by judge or jury?" Mr. Johnston replied that as one of the rules stipulated that no indemnity would be paid to any one till three months after his first premium was paid, the interval would enable the Association to accumulate sufficient funds to meet such a liability. He thought it unlikely that such a large claim as 500% would be made directly the Association started.

Iu reply to another question as to whether the wholesale houses were to be included, Mr. Johnston said the wholesale trade bad been approached some time ago, but as the respouse was not encouraging no provision had been made for

including them.

Another question was: "Supposing you take on wholesale houses, and, under Rule 10, one of your own wholesale members is the third party responsible; who will you pay?" The answer given was: "The party proved to be in the wrong; or, failing that, the party sued. Or it might be both. It would depend on circumstances."

A resolution was passed expressing approval of the objects

and rules of the Association.

Trade Motes.

SPRATT'S PATENT (LIMITED) have removed their head offices to 24 and 25 Fenchurch Street, E C. The manufacture of their goods will be carried on at Poplar and Bermondsey as heretofore, but all communications should be addressed to Fenchurch Street.

"Lemco" has been puzz'iug us a good deal lately, but the puzzle is solved on page 35° of this week's \mathcal{C} . \mathcal{S} D. From the notice there given it will be observed that it is the outward sign which is to distinguish the Liebig's Extract of Meat Company's well-known product from all others.

DR. JACOB TOWNSEND'S well-known sarsaparilla preparations bave passed into the hands of Messrs. Newball & Mason, of Nottingham and we expect that these very oldestablished proprietary medicines will find extended popularity through Messrs. Newball & Mason's energetic business methods.

CHOTA WHIFFS.—Messrs. Oakes Brothers & Co., of 46 New Broad Street, E.C., inform us that in cousequence of the number of orders for Chota Whiffs which they have bad as a consequence of advertising in THE CHEMIST AND DBUGGIST, their stock became temporarily exhausted and several orders had to be held over. They have now, however, laid in a fresh stock, and can execute all orders promptly.

To Advertise Kay's.—We have received from Messrs. Kay Brothers (Limited), of Stockport, samples of a new handbill which they are issuing. The bills, besides advertising the various specialities of the firm, bear on the back a clearly printed map of the Transvaal. The firm have also in course of preparation a framed plate glass mirror (8½ inches by 11 inches) advertising "Linseed Compound." These will be sent to chemists asking for them.

"Uncommon Salt," if you may so call potassium chloride, is Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co's latest tabloid. It appears that medical specialists recommend gouty individuals to use potash chloride instead of sodium chloride with their food, and Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. have produced this "tabloid" potassium chloride so that one may crush a tabloid for use at the table. The exact apportionment of the salt to 20 gr. is advisable, because many people are apt to eat excessive amounts of salt.

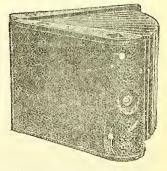
THE Sen-Sen Company are sending out a card war-puzzle to which is attached a free sample of their well-known cachou. The puzzle might be described as a pictorial game of chess, pieces for which are cut out of a circular design on the card, the object being to reach Pretoria from camp in eleven moves. The advertising idea is a good one, and if properly pushed should mean good business. Copies of the puzzle are to be obtained on application at the Sen-Sen Company's Office, Farringdon Avenue, E.C.

PEARS' ANNUAL.—This hardy and artistic annual marvel has again come to haud, and is no whit behind the triumphs of former years. It contains a complete story by Mr Max Pemberton, "I crown thee King," with 21 original illustrations by Mr. Frank Dadd, R.I. It is printed on good paper, and the decorative cover, showing a piquant face with a crown of auburn hair peeping from behind lace curtains, is distinctly "fetching." The three accompanying chromolith graphs from the original paintings are executed in the best style. The edition of 350,000 has been entirely sold out to the newsagents. The price, as usual, is one shilling.

FLORAL THERMOMETERS.—Messrs. S. Maw, Son & Thompson, Aldersgate Street, E.C., send us a specimen of a most attractive-looking thermometer they are placing on the market. The mercury-tube bas a background of white opal with lettering in black, and the frame is an artistic representation of sprays of distinct flowers or leaves. The article is made in six different designs, and customers may henceforth select a thermometer decorated with acoru and oak-leaves, or with violets, thistles, shamrocks, daisies, or roses. The thermometer is made to stand up on table or mantleshelf, and the article should be saleable Christmas stock, especially seeing that the price is only 15s. 9d. per dozen.

A NOVELTY in cameras, very suitable for the Christmas

trade, has just been stocked by Messrs. Barclay & Sons (Limited), 95 Farringdon Screet, E.C. The Pocket Kozy cameras, to which we refer, arc of American manufacture, and take daylight spools of films, each picture being 3½ by 3½ inches. The illustration shows the camera open ready for use at an angle which automatically locks the sides in the correct position. The outside of the Pocket Kozy



is covered with black morocco leather. The lens, a single achromatic one, is fitted with a shutter by which either time or iustantaneous exposure can be made. The camera retails at 21. 2s.

The Register of Chemists and Druggists.

THE Pharmacy Act, 1868 (Great Britain), enjoins the registrar to keep a correct register of chemists and druggists, and towards this end empowers him to erase from the register the names of persons to whom he has addressed two registered letters (the second one six months after the first) and has received no reply to either. Mr. Richard Bremridge, the Registrar, 16 Bloomsbury Square, W.C, has addressed such letters to each of the undermentioned persons at the addresses given, and, having received no reply, the names will be removed from the Register of Chemists and Druggists or Pharmaceutical Chemists, unless the persons communicate their present addresses to him before De-

We may add that names removed can only be restored on the direction of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, and for this restoration a fee of 11.1s. is charged; but it should be noted that a name once removed is only restored if the Council "think fit to make an order to that effect."

Abbot, Joseph, 125 Neville Road, Upton Park, London, E. Alexander, Adam, 60 Holburn Street, Aberdeen Alexander, Ernest Glover, opposite Carlisle Hotel, Mauningham,

*Appleton, Robert, Hawthorn, near Melbourne, Victoria Ashford, Francis, Deptford High Street, London, S.E.

Atkinson, George John, 1 Baxter Gate, Doncaster Baillie, Janet, Tranent, Haddingtonshire

Baines, Joseph Charles, 55 Blackman Street, Borough, London, SE.

Banfield, Harold, 26 Urswick Road, London, N.E. Barrett, Allan Lifton, 10 Brecon Road, Hay, Breconshire Beesley, Thomas, 203 Clapham Road, London, S.W. Beysion, Benjamin, 125 High Street, Swansea
Bland, Henry, 93 Falsgrave Road, Scarborough
Booth, William Smith, Hoyland Nether, near Barnsley, Yorks.
Botterill, Frederick William, 20 High Road, Kilburn, N.W. Bowden, Ambrose, 13 Charles Street, St. James, London, S.W. Bridger, Thomas, Middletown, New York

Bridger, Thomas, Middletown, New York
Buck, Charles Burton, 8 Lower Brook Street, Ipswich
Buruham, Charles John, jun., 11 Axe Street, Barking
Campbell, Alfred, 13 Lordship Lane, Dulwich, London, S.E.
Casey, Edward, 55 Little Lever Street, Manchester
Chadwick, Arthur Geoffrey, 10 Upper Borough Walls, Bath
Challis, Frank, 66 Lowth Road, Denmark Hill, London, S.E.
*Chapman, Joseph George, P.O. Boston, U.S.A.
Clark, John, 17 Bryantwood Road, Holloway, London, N.
Clark, John Jeffrey, 34 The Triangle, Bournemouth
Cockerill, Thomas, 81 North Street, Ripon
Cocking, Frederick John, The Hawthorns, Alvingham, near Lough
Coleman, Friend, 44 Wood Vale, Lordship Lane, London, S.E.
Coombs, William Thomas, Brentford, Middlesex
Cooper, Edwin, Bracebridge, Simcoe, Canada
*Cornish, William, jun., 101 Hoodle Street, Collingwood, Melbourne, Australia
Craig, Henry Riddell, 527 W. 125th Street, New York

Craig, Henry Riddell, 527 W. 125th Street, New York Crompton, Benjamin, 2 Fern Bank, Moston Lane, near Manchester

Cross, Robert, 15 Drake Street, Rochdale

*Cule, Taliesin, Dynevor House, Pontypridd, Glamorganshire Dalby, Robert Eastham, 21 Howick Street, Monkwearmouthshore, Sunderland

shore, Sunderland
Davies, Daniel Evan, 34 Oxford Street, Mountain Ash, S. Wales
Davies, Samuel, 187 Kensington, Liverpool
Dickinson, William, 1 Queen's Gardens, Bayswater, London, W.
Dismorr, Henry, 42 Windmill Street, Gravesend
Drabble, Frederick Pearson, Cliftou Lane, Rotherham
Drummond, John Alexander, 9 Corn Market, Belfast
Duckenfield, Joseph, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
Earee, Edwin Thomas, High Street, South Croydon
*Edwards, William, Pleasley Hill, Mansfield, Notts
Elliott, Dyson, Trafalgar House, Tweedale Street, Rochdale,
Lancs

Elliott, George Henry, 10 Ilbert Street, Plymouth Ellissou, Charles, Aire Street, Knottingley, Yorks Endall, Edward Albert, 5 Southwater Road, St. Leonards Evans, Barrow, Curzon Street, Derby Evans, Thomas, 22 Brunswick Street, Swansea Fletcher, Isaac Brackstone, Totton, near Southampton Fletcher, William, Todmorden

DECEMBER 2, 1899 Fowles, Frederick William, 94 Edinburgh Road, Liverpool Franciosi, Eugène Auguste de, 11 Rue d'Armaille, Paris Franciosi, Eugene Auguste de, 11 Kue d'Armaille, Paris Francis, George, Market Place, Romsey, Hants Gant, Robert Boddy, 39 Artillery Place, Woolwich Garrett, John, 22 Essex Road, Acton, London, W. *Garrett, John Henry, 8 Torrington Place, London, W.C. Gibson, James Edward, 107 London Street, Reading Gibson, Mary, Redear, Yorks Gosden, James, Abergavenny, Mon.

*Goucher, John, 21 Beaconsfield Villas, Brighton
Grant, John, West Street, D'Urban, Natal, South Africa
Green, Robert, 23 Hare Street, Woolwich, London, S.E.
Green, Sidney Herbert, 61 Trinity Square, Borough, London, S.E.
Grey, John Elston, St. Michael's Villa, Purbeck Road, Bourneyworth Work mouth West Hamilton John, 81 Oxford Street, London, W. Hanbury, William, 84 Westgreen Road, South Tottenbam Hancock, Fred, 1 Edward Street, Sheffield Hanna, George Henry, 27 East Preston Street, Edinburgh Harper, Joshua Henry, Uitenhage, Cape Colony Harrison, William Dale, Perth, Western Australia Hart, Thomas, 27 South Bridge, Airdrie Hayes, Frederick, Duckworth Street, Over Darwen, Lancs
Henderson, John George, 11 Promenade, Lordship Lane, East.
Dulwich, London, S.E.
Hill, Robert Bryden, 15 West Richmond Street, Edinburgh
Hindle, John, 83 Clowes Street, West Gorton, Manchester
*Horthy, Alfred, 96 Chetwynd Road, London, N.W.
Howard, Henry, Colkirk, Norfolk
Hughes, George, 50 Paddington, Liverpool
Hughes, John Edward, 12 Medway Street, Westminster, London,
S.W.
Lughes, William Charles, 151 Howton Street, London, N. Hayes, Frederick, Duckworth Street, Over Darwen, Lancs Hughes, William Charles, 151 Hoxton Street, London, N. James, John, 35 Trinity Square, London, S.E. Jeffrey, Elias, 94 Richmond Road, Barnsbury, London, N. Jeffries, Benjamin, 2 Heaton Place, Peckham Rye, London, S.E. Jeffries, Gilbart, 39 Victoria Road, Peckham, Loudon, S.E. Jelley, Stephen John, 26 Ogle Street, Fitzroy Square, London, W. Jones, Thomas, Accra, West Coast of Africa *Jones, William, The White House, Lyth Hill, near Shrewsbury Jones, William Nathanael, 62 Albion Road, Stoke Newington, London, N.

Johnson, Frederick, 142 Kingsland Road, London, N.E.

London, N.

Kay, John, Corner of Workman Street and Hawkins Street, E.,
Los Angeles, South California

Kenward, Robert, 63 Arundel Street, Landport

Kerr, George Jobling, Derby Road, Huyton, Liverpool

Kilkenuy, Andrew, 1 Well Street, Wellelose Square, London, E.,

*King, Arthur, 8 West Parade, Norwich

Knaggs, Aaron, High Street, Loftus, Yorks

*Laoe, Henry, 4 Heslington Terrace, York

*Lance, Henry, West Street, Durban, South Africa

*Lacy, Henry, 4 Heslington Terrace, York
*Lance, Henry, West Street, Durban, South Africa
*Leake, Thomas Whaplate, 151 Uxbridge Road, Loudon, W.
Lee, Thomas, 116a Mottram Road, Hyde, Cheshire
Lewis, Edward Prosser, Sydney, New South Wales
Lewis, William Spencer, Castle View, Castle Street, Kendal
Lightfoot, John, 43 Strand Street, Cape Town, South Africa
Lindley, Henry, 57 South Street, Moor, Sheffield
Lingard, Losenh, Chester, Chester, Chester

Lingard, Joseph, Cheadle, Chester Lockhart, John, 23 Regent Place, Shawlands, Glasgow Lomas, Charles Benjamin, Bogantan, Queensland

Lunn, Arthur, 13 Onslow Road, Richmond, Surrey

Lunn, Arthur, 15 Onslow Road, Richmond, Surrey
McBeath, John William, Exeter Street, West Hartlepool
McMillan, James, 69 Dombey Street, Toxteth Park, Liverpool
McMillan, James Laker, Calcutta
McNicol, John, 362 Hamilton Place, Partick, N.B.
Mansergh, William, 451 Stockport Road, Manchester
Melhuish, Thomas Boucher, King William Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

Melhuish, Thomas Boucher, King William Street, Sydney, N.S.W. Messer, Frederic, 49 Beruers Street, London, W. Millar, James Herd, 121 Almack Road, Clapton, London, N.E. Moffet, William Emslie, 52 Mouut Pleasant, Barrow-in-Furness-Moody, William Morton, 6 Queen Street, Louth *Morgan, William Ellis, Normanhurst, Llandudno Nayler, Joseph, 56 Jefferson Avenue, Jersey City, U.S.A. Newton, John Titus, 202 Moseley Road, Birmingham Nicholson, Charles, Bootham, York Nicholson, John Head, Poplar House, Flimby, Maryport Nicholson, Walter Joseph, 29 Congreye Street, Birmingham

Nicholson, Walter Joseph, 29 Congreve Street, Birmingham Nicholson, William Ostler, 13 Granville Square, Londou, W.C.

Nicholson, Wilham Ostler, 13 Granville Square, Londou, W.C. Norton, Anthouy, Longuor, Staffordshire Ockenden, Joseph Kent, Toronto, Canada Ogilvie, William Ogilvie, Myna Tal, India *Olliver. George Edward, Shillington, Hitchin Onion, Hannah M., Poyntington, West Hill Road, Bournemoutly Osmond, Henry Lincolu, Castle Cottage, Totnes Padley, Wm., 170 Clarendon Street, South Melbourne, Australia *Parker, Charles, Melbourne, Victoria Parker, Charles, Main Street, Kirkby Lonsdale Parker, Henry George, Dalkeith Place, Kettering

^{*} Those marked with an asterisk are pharmaceutical chemists.

DECEMBER 2, 1899 Peacock, Win. H., 52 Ivanhoe Rd., Denmark Park, London, S.E. Pearce, Alfred John, 54 East Hill, Wandsworth, London, S.W. Pearce, Edward Edwin, 2 Mary Street, Southwick, Durham Peters, John, 2 Newland, Northampton Phillips, George Henry, 5 The Pavement, Merton Road, Merton Pickard, James, Leeds Road, Bradford, Yorks Pirie, James Mather, 17 Buccleuch Street, Glasgow Pool, George, 5 Honor Oak Rise, London, S.E. Prott, George, 5 Honor Cak Rise, London, S.E.
Pratt, Francis, 39 Alexandra Road, Selhurst, London, S.E.
Preston, William, 152 James Street, Burnley
Pridgeon, Henry Pacey, 151 Grove Green Road, Leytonstone,
London, N.E.
Priestley, John Andrew, Napier Street, Bradford, Yorks
Priestley, William, Poonah, India
Ray, Frederick James, 5 Peckham Rye, London, S.E.
Readman, William Henry, 404 Monument Road, Riveringham Reedman, William Henry, 404 Monument Road, Birmingham *Richards, Thomas, Station Road, Porth, Glam. Rishforth, Henry, Aberford, Yorks
Robbie, Charles Thain, 7 Corn Market, Belfast Roberts, Frederick Lancelot, 224 Sebert Road, Forest Gate, London, E. Robertson, George Farrie, 134 Montgomery Street, Edinburgh Robins, John, Framlingham, Suffolk Robotham, George Henry, 54 Dale End, Birmingham Sampson, Nicholas Mackey, 18 Pomona Place, Walham Green, London, S.W. London, S.W.
Sanders, Basil Stanley, 63 Stow Hill, Newport, Mon.
Sanderson, James Boyer, Barnack, Northamptonshire
Saunders, William John, 34 Surrey Square, London, S.E.
Schofield, Harry, 3 High Park Road, Southport
Schuller, Walter Joseph, 7 Carisbrooke Road, Walthamstow
*Schweitzer, Julius, 1022 Main Street, Kansas City, Missouri
Schater, John George, 15 Livingstone Place, Ediphyred Sclater, John George, 15 Livingstone Place, Edinburgh Scott, Malcolm, 45 South Clerk Street, Edinburgh Seward, George Halifax, St. Marylebone Infirmary, Rackham Street, London, W. *Sharp, David Blakey, Tavistock Place, Borough Road, Sunder-Silverwood, Joseph, Elm House, Shelley, near Huddersfield Simpson, Thomas, 3 Park Cottages, Brighton Road, Croydon Smith, Alfred, Johannesburg, South Africa Smith, David A, Bristol, Quebec Province, Canada *Snell, Charles Henry, Campinas, Sao Paulo, Brazil Snell, Charles Henry, East House, Church Street, Stoke Newington, London, N. Sollitt, Arthur, Shipton Street, Clifton, York Southam, Stanley, 92 Upper Lloyd Street, Moss Side, Manchester Stamford, Frederick, Manor House, Skidby, Hull Stanfield, Francis Parkin, Sheffield Stephens, Thomas Fowle, 49 Wells Street, Oxford Street, London W London, W.
Stephenson, Francis, Market Place, Kirkby Moorside, York
Stewart, Robert, Rangoon, British Burmah
Stewart, William, Melbourne, Australia
Sutton, Allan, 80 Holt Road, Liverpool Tabberer, William Frederick, 1 Fieldslea, Lower Poole Road, Parkstone, Dorset Thacker, Henry Ransley, 164 St. Anne's Well Road, Nottingham Thacker, Henry Ransley, 164 St. Anne's Well Road, Nottinghar Thomson, George William, Brighton, near Melbourne, Victoria Thornhill, Ernest, 3 The Promenade, Ealing Dean Tomlius n., George, Waddingham, Lincolnshire Trusk, Thomas, 1 Vernon Chambers, London, W.C. Tucker, William Tyley, Byculla, Bombay Turner, John Arthur, 1 Argyle Street, Bedford Turner, Joseph Kitchen, Madelia, Watonwau Country, Minnesota, U.S.A.

Waddy, Ernest Alfred, Dover Walker, George, Athol House, Milward Road, Hastings Wallis, John, "Collingbourue," Christchurch Road, Boscombe Watson, Thomas Bell, West Street, New Alresford, Hants Watson, Thomas Bell, West Street, New Alresford, Hants Wheeldon, Edwin, 1 Summerhill Terrace, Warrington Whitewood, John, 127 Algernon Road, Lewisham, London, S.E. Whyte, James, 33 Rosemount Viaduct, Aberdeen Wickham, William, 509 New Cross Road, London, S.E. Wilson, John Hart, 54 Hudleston Street, Cullercoats Wine, John Alfred, Hospital for the Insane, Yarra Bend, Mel-bourne Victoria

bourne, Victoria

Wright, William Robinson, High Street, Chatteris, Cambs.

Last week, in noticing Messrs. Dysons', of Mexborough, scheme for raising money for the Wives and Families of Reservists' Fund, a line was accidentally omitted, and the context lost its meaning. Messrs. Dysons are going to deduct 2d. from the money received for each 1s. $1\frac{1}{2}d$. bottle, and 6d. from every 2s. 9d. bottle, of their cough-cure sold from November 25 to December 31, and hand the money to a local fund. They are calculating that by this means they will be able to contribute at least 81.

The Spectacle=makers' Company.

THE November examinations have been held this week.

At the commencement of the written examination on November 27 Sir Reginald Hanson, Master of the Company, attended, and gave a short address to the candidates. He said that, as Master of the Worshipful Company of Spectaclemakers, and as a past Lord Mayor, he was proud to be associated with the development of this movemen, and was glad to see such a good assemblage of candidates. The technical instruction imparted under the ægis of this Company was bound to have effect on the style and conduct of the optical trade of the country. There would be improve-ment in the methods employed, whether purely mechanical or scientific in character, which in due course of time would meet the requirements of the general public; and in their interests it was necessary that the optician should be qualified to exercise his business. Whilst it was important that opticians should be proficient in the m chanical requirements of their calling, it is even more essential that they should be competent to distinguish between those cases in which glasses can be supplied by them and those which require the skill of the oculist. They should understand that the Company did not wish them to take the place of the ophthalmic surgeon. Their function was to deal only with the eye as an optical instrument. The moment they found that an eye was incapable of receiving perfect vision with the aid of the appliances of their trade, it was their bounden duty to recommend the customer to seek advice. Above all, he hoped they would recollect that the Spectaclemakers' diploma, while giving them a certain position and standing, called likewise for certain obligations. The Company expected them never to degrade their calling by advertising their skill or superiority over their fellow-craftsmen, or by making statements in print to the detriment of others. Sir Reginald Hanson concluded his interesting remarks by referring to the active part taken in the promotion of the scheme by Mr. W. H. E. Thornthwaite, the late Master, and hoping that all the candidates would pass.

The following are the questions set in visual optics:-

1. A sphero-cylindrical lens has its axis set at some unknown angle: How would you ascertain at what angle the meridian of greatest refraction is placed? At what angle is the meridian of least refraction? Are these two angles always found to be at right-angles to one another? If they are, explain why; and if not, why not?

2. How far must a -9 D Sph. and a +8 D Sph. be placed

from one another in order to neutralise each other? make any difference which lens is in front of the other.

3. A thin planoconvex lens made of dense flint glass having an index of refraction of 17 has a radius of curvature of 15 inches for its curved surface: find its focal length.

4 Describe very carefully what will be seen on looking at a horizontal window-bar against the bright sky through a thin prism

held with its base upwards.

5. Supposing a person otherwise emmetropic had got a high degree of astigmatism, what will be probably complain of in the way he sees objects? in other words, how will be, never having heard of astigmatism, describe his visual defects? How could you make an emmetrope see things as though he were astigmatic?

6. A person aged 60 brings you the following prescription for distant vision :-

RE
$$\frac{-2 \text{ DS}}{+1.5 \text{ DC axis vert}}$$
 LE $\frac{-1 \text{ DS}}{+0.75 \text{ DC axis vert}}$

Can you improve on this prescription without altering the power?

What glasses would you give him for reading at 14 inches?
7. If a person aged 20 is H 4 D, how much accommodation would be use when reading at 40 cm. while wearing +1.75 D Sph. How much accommodative power has he to spare, and what glasses ought he to usc?

8. Describe the crystalline lens from an optical point of view, omitting all reference to its minute anatomy. What would be the optical effect of removing the crystalline lens altogether?

9 A myope is found to be wearing his spectacles each +10 D Sph. tilted so that the R glass is 5 mm. above the centre of his pupil and the L glass 5 mm. below. What will be the effect on his vision, and how many degrees would it displace the image

at 3 metres? 10. Can a myope have vision $\frac{6}{6}$ or J 1 without glasses under any circumstances? What would be about the visual acuity of a myope of 2 D and of 6 D?

War Motes.

OUR CAPE CORRESPONDENT, writing on November 8, informs us that among the "gallant six hundred" who are defending Mafeking against such heavy odds is Mr. Wood, a chemist's assistant, formerly in the employ of Messrs. Curling, Wyman & Co., London. He reported "all well" to our correspondent just before communication was cnt off. In all fifteen chemists' assistants belonging to Cape Town are on active service in various parts of the colony.

THE CAPE GOVERNMENT RAILWAY have constructed two ambulance trains. The pharmacy and kitchen are located in one coach, and the dispensing-portion is said to have been singularly well equirped.

MESSES. CRESSWELL, SONS & Co., the agents of Major & Co. (Limited), Hull, offered to the Imperial Government all their available stock of disinfectants and antiseptics for use at the Military Hospital at Wynberg. This is considered a very patriotic move, and there is every probability of its acceptance.

THE IMPERIAL AUTHORITIES are paying every attention to the men wounded in battle. A number leuched Wynberg, a small town, outside which is situated the hospital, a few days since, and a further batch in two special "Red Cross" trains passed the spot at which our correspondent was writing. They had been brought round from Natal in hospital ships. Brand's essence is now unobtainable at the Cape, the military authorities having purchased all in the peninsula. Other meat-extracts and preparations then had a turn.

ACCORDING to Surgeon-General Jameson there are at present ten sets of Röntgen-ray apparatus in Sonth Africa, and three more sets are being sent ont. Messrs. H. W. Cox (Limited) snpplied a fine set to the *Princess* of Wales hospital ship, which was paid for by the Duke of Newcastle.

ONE MILLION HALFPENNIES (2,000l.) is the amount already contributed to the Mansion House War Fund by means of the scheme of the Vinolia Company (Limited), by which they are devoting one halfpenny for every tablet of Vinolia soap sold during the month ending December 5.

NAVAL HOSPITAL DISPENSERS.—It will be noticed from an advertisement in our Supplement this week that the Medical Department of the Admiralty have received such a large number of applications from candidates for the Admiralty appointments that they are unable to reply to each individually.

WAR-BULLETINS have been an attractive window-display the past few weeks, and we notice that Messrs. J. Horrell & Co., chemists, Broadstairs, make a good display in their windows every day. They have a bulletin-board, upon which they affix the latest intelligence as derived from the newspapers, and in the course of the day telegrams are also posted on the board; and these, with portraits of the leading actors in the tragic drama, afford to keep a small crowd about the windows throughout the day.

B.M.A. AND SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' FAMILIES.—The British Medical Association has decided to support the movement initiated by the Chelsea Clinical Society for rendering gratuitous medical relief to the wives and families of soldiers and sailors now serving in South Africa. The local branches of the Association throughout the United Kingdom will at once be put into communication with the local representatives of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association in order that free medical attendance may be provided.

FREE MEDICINE.—In a letter to the Birmingham Daily Mail, on October 25, Mr. Charles Thompson, pharmaceutical chemist, Sparkbrook, states that as there is a possibility of medical men in Birmingham offering their services free to the wives and families of the reservists who have been called upon to join their regiments, he feels snre there are many pharmacists who would be willing to supply the medicine necessary free of charge. He should be glad to receive the names of any chemists who would like to join in snch a movement, so as to divide the city into districts and

to make it known where medicines could be easily obtained. At the meeting of the Relief Sub-committee held on November 27, cordial appreciation was expressed of Mr. Thompson's proposal.

THE JOHANNESBURG CHEMISTS.—A correspondent has sent to the *Echo* a copy of the *C. & D* of November 25, in which we printed a letter by our Johannesburg correspondent, then at Durban, in which he stated that he counted no fewer than fourteen Johannesburg chemists the previons day (October 27) fishing and bathing in the sea at the port. Our contemporary's correspondent, commenting on the fact, says:—"These fourteen refugees might be better employed than enjoying themselves just now, whilst other men are fighting on their behalf; they might at any rate be of some use in the hospitals if they have not pluck enough to do good work like the Indian servants [i.e., dhoolie bearers]. No wonder the Boers despise Englishmen if these seem to them fair specimens of our race."

TRANSVAAL WAR FUND.—Contributions during the past week have been as follows:—

£	8.	d.		£	s.	đ.
Kemball, Bishop & Co. 52	10	0	H. Rubeck	5	5	0
Sanitas Co. (Lim.) 26	5	0	Trilene Company	5	5	0
C. J. Hewlett & Son 21	0	0	F. Fink & Co			
Spies Bros. & Co 10	10	0	C. MacCombie & Co.	2	2	0
Mr. A. Domeier 10	0	0	Kimpton Bros	1	1	0

Business Changes.

Notices of changes in the retail trade, and opening of new businesses, are inserted in this section free of charge, if properly authenticated.

THE Monroe Camera Company have removed their London offices' to 42 Goswell Road, E.C. (near Aldersgate Street Station).

Mr. M. H. Griffith, chemist and druggist, Exmonth, has purchased the business of Mr. W. Wilkerson, at 11 High Street, Rushden.

MR. F. R. HAMPSHIRE, of Addy Street, Upperthorpe, Sheffield, has acquired the Sheffield Moor Pharmacy lately carried on by Mr. William Ward.

MR. GEO E. MARFITT, chemist and druggist, has taken over the business at 116 Oxford Street, Leicester, which he has been managing for some years for Mr. G. Woolley.

MR. J. W. RICHARDS, chemist, Llwynypia, Rhondda Valley, has had his shop entirely remodelled and fitted throughout by Messrs. Ayrton & Saunders, of Liverpool.

PARKES' DRUG STORES (LIMITED) have acquired the old-established business in High Street, Chemistord, lately carried on by Mr. W. Metcalfe, pharmaceutical chemist.

MR. WM. YATES, chemist and druggist, who has taken over the old-established business recently carried on by the late Mrs. Wall, at 67 Market Street, Shaw, is having a new front put in and the inside remodelled by Messrs. Evans, Sons & Co., Liverpool.

URINE-ANALYSIS.—Treatment, in speaking of our book, although of opinion that the analysis of urioe is not part of the pharmacist's work, admits that the practical and manipulative part of the book is well done, clearly expressed, and not overburdened with detail.

PLAGUE GERMS BY POST.—Sending "living germs of plague" by post is a risky procedure, and the Government of India has appropriately laid down rigid regulations under which alone such articles may be transmitted by post, and then only to a Government laboratory or to a person specially permitted to receive them. The germs are to be seenrely packed in a hermetically-closed tin which is to be placed in a strong outer box of wood or tin witn a layer of at least $\frac{3}{4}$ inch of cotton-wool between the inner and outer case; this outer case is to be enclosed in stout cloth, which is to be seenrely fastened and sealed, and labelled with an inscription that will snffice to make immediately manifest the nature of the contents.

Festivities.

SHEFFIELD PHARMACISTS' SMOKING.

A smoking-concert, promoted by the Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society, was held on November 23 in the Wharncliffe Hotel, Mr. G. Squire (President) in the chair. Mr. Ernest Dale (character-humourist) was engaged for the occasion, and a number of the members of the Society and their friends also contributed to an enjoyable programme.

MANCHESTER STUDENTS HAPPY.

The students of the Northern College of Pharmacy held their annual dinner and smoking-concert on November 24 at the Alexandra Hotel, Manchester. There was a large muster of students, and a plearant evening was spent listening to a varied and an interesting musical programme. During the evening presentations of handsome walking-sticks were made to Mr. G. Clayton and Mr. F. Lawson (the principals) by the students.

LEICESTER CHEMISTS' SOCIAL.

A smcking-concert under the auspices of the Chemists' Social Union was held at the Grand Hotel, Leicester, on November 23, Mr. E. H. Butler, in the absence of Mr. T. Howard Lloyd, occupying the chair. An excellent musical programme under the directorship of Mr. W. J. Bunney, F.R.C.O., was gore through. The items most appreciated were the selections given by the Orpheus Glee Society and the funniosities of Messrs. Goddad and Langford. The arrangements were ably carried out by Mr. F. W. Goodess, the Hon. Secretary of the Union.

CRICKETERS DINE AND SING.

The second annual supper of Hewlett's Cricket Club was held at Kohler's Rastaurant, Wool Exchange, E.C., on Saturday, November 25. Nearly seventy members and their friends sat down to a substantial repast, and a smoking-concert followed, Mr. E. J. Millard, F.C.S., being in the chair. After the usual loyal teasts had been honoured, the Chairman, in proposing "Success to the Club," read a letter from Mr. John C. Hewlett F.C S., regretting his inability to be present, and hoping they would have a pleasant evening. Mr. H. Fesenmeyer (captain) responded, and referred in detail to the events of the past season. The concert was a great success. The songs by Mr. A. Probert, Mr. J. Chance, and Mr. B. Dear, being of special merit, earned considerable applause. The comic songs by Mr. C. Charsley, Mr. A. Upton, and Mr. E. Thompson received special favour. Pianoforte solos by Master J. Chance, and also by Mr. J. Britton, the accompanist, were rendered in excellent style. An enthusiastic reception was accorded to Mr. Corrie's recitation of Rudyard Kipling's "Absent-Minded Beggar," which was followed by the audience rising and singing "Rule Britannia" and "Soldiers of the Queen." The practical application of the poem resulted in 26s being forwarded to the fund promoted by the Daily Telegraph. During the evening the Chairman presented the Hon. Sccretary (Mr. H. Gillard) with a handsome marble timepiece from the members of the club in recognition of his services.

A MANCHESTER DINNER.

On Saturday, November 25, the staff of Messrs. James Woolley. Sons & Co. (Limited), Manchester, held their twenty-first annual dinner and smoking-concert at the Mosley Hotel, Manchester. Mr. W. Lane presided, and over 100 persons were present. The company included Mr. Hermann Woolley and Mr. C. A. Johnstone (directors), and representatives of all sections of the staff. A good musical programme was provided, the usual toasts and speeches taking place at appropriate intervals. In replying to the toast of "The Firm," proposed by Mr. A. Balmforth, Mr. Hermann Woolley contrasted the present conditions of business with those which existed when he, as a youth, first entered the house. The premises of the firm were then quite modest compared with their present buildings; their manufacturing-resources were not nearly so great, and such implements of modern commerce as the telephone, cheap telegrams, postcards, and the splendid systems of modern despatch and delivery were unknown. Business, too, was

not carried on at such high pressure, customers were not so exacting and precise, nor competition so keen. These changes had been the grand opportunities of the firm; they had shown what could be done under these conditions by strict observance of sound business principles. Mr. Johnstone, in supporting Mr Woolley, impressed upon the younger members the advantages of commercial education and strict attention to all details of business. Mr. A. C. Vallance gave "The Visitors," to which Dr. Webster re sponded.

Our soldiers in South Africa and the Soudan were not forgotten, and after drinking to their "Welfare and Success," "The Soldiers of the Queen" was sung by Mr. Vallance, and "The Absent-Minded Beggar" was recited by Mr. Hankinson.

A BIG SMOKER.

The fourth annual smoking-concert in connection with Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co.'s cricket club took place on November 24 at the Holborn Town Hall. Over 700 tickets had been sold for the occasion, and about that number of persons were present. Mr H. R. Arnold occupied the chair, and Mr. F. Allen the vice chair. It is safe to say that at no other smoking-concert is there such a gathering of representatives of the wholesale and retail drug-trade. Among those present we notice d Messrs. W. C. Allen (Stafford Allen & Sons), Arnold Baiss, Brewis, T. Bryant, C. Cazenove, Croxford (Stevenson & Howell), C. A. Dunn (G. Curling, Wyman & Co.), T. Farries (Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co.), A. C. Gregory (Hearon, Squire & Francis), Halstead, Hucks, A. Lambert (Lambert & Strong), S. Lambert, Hugo Lorenz, C. MacCombie, Moxon, Johnson, C. Lye, B. E. R. Newlands, E. J. Parry, Paterson (R. Morrison & Co.), Max Philippon, A. S. Pickering, E. J. Reid, Robinson (Spencer, Chapman & Co.), F. C. Stephens (May & Baker) R. Taubman (Morson & Son), T. Tyrer, Weiss (H. Lorenz), S. C. Welch (Hopwood & Co.), Chas. White, and C. Zimmerman.

The programme was of a high order, and kept the large audience interested from start to finish. Miss Erroll Stanhope, after singing "Love me just a little, Sue," delighted everybody with a couple of whistling solos—"Days of Araby" and "Robin Adair," Miss Daisy James sang "Anything in Reason," and "How did he know that I was going to Bump?" with excellent effect Mr. Malcolm Scott sang a comic song which provoked roars of laughter. It was sentimental, telling how "I cannot dream of thee, no matter what I eat." Mr. Scott's encore was "I've a terrible lot to do to-day." Miss Maud Fowler sang "Killarney" with much feeling, and also "Jewel of Asia" from the "Geisha" Miss Kitty Corbett in a vigorous manner sung of her "Henry who's in the Horseguards Blue, and sits on a gee-gee in an archway in Whitehall." Miss Edie Stanton (as a 'Bookey up to Date'), Miss Edith Payne, Mr. Herbeit Linwood, Mr. W. H. Berry, Mr. Harry Churchill, and Mr. Horace Corbyn were other songsters. Mr Paul de Var gave imitations of beasts and birds while Mr. Charles Conway appeared in a series of Dickens characters-the Rev. Mr. Chadband, Mr. Micawber, Sidney Carton, and Nell's grandfather were readily recognised.

The evening was also noted for its outbursts of patriotism. The concert began with "God save the Queen"; "Tommy Atkins," "Soldiers of the Queen," and "Rule Britannia" were rendered, the wave culminating in a recitation by Mr. Conway of Kipling's "Absent Minded Beggar." A collection in aid of the Reservists' Fund was made, and produced 171 3s 3d., which Mr. Farries made up to 201. "The Royal Exchange Strollers" who were dining that evening at the City of New York Restaurant, Holborn, afterwards came in a body to the smoker.

A word of praise is due to the stewards, Messys. Harris, Little, Potter, Crawford, Ryley, Cheyne, and King, for the manner in which they discharged their duties and arranged the concert. It is no light task to successfully engineer a concert on such a large scale.

A SCIENTIFIC VERSION.

SCINTILLATE, scintillate, globule vivific, Wonderingly contemplated by men scientific; Elevated and poised in the ether capacious, Resembling a coruscant gem carbonaceous.

Correspondence.

Exceptional pressure on our space this week compels us to hold back letters to the Editor and other correspondence.

Legal Queries.

179/66. W. W.—We do not know of any case which makes it illegal to apply for a debt on a postcard, but we should hardly think it is conducive to an increase of business; and such applications would have to be worded with care lest they might be construed into libels, especially as the same result can be obtained by sending the application in an envelope with a halfpenny stamp. It must be borne in mind that the question of libel or no libel is always a question for the jury, and juries do not always consider things with a judicial mind.

185/57. Rook.—Your queries 1 and 3 are in respect to preparations of scheduled poisons, and it has been held by the High Court that the sale of a preparation containing a scheduled poison is to be regarded as a sale of that poison; but we do not think that the sale of cod-liver oil emulsion containing 10 minims of chloroform in 36 cz. of the emnlsion would be regarded as a sale of chloroform. But an unregistered person who kept open shop for the sale of such preparations might be got at in another way. If the emulsion contains 5 oz. of whisky in 36 oz., the Inland Revenue authorities are likely to regard its sale as illegal unless the seller is licensed to retail spirits, seeing that the preparation contains about 14 per cent. of proof spirit, and the sale of cod-liver oil emplsion is regarded as the sale of a food. Hydrarg. ox. flav. is a physical modification of red oxide of mercury, and the Pharmaceutical Society should bave little difficulty in proving to a Court that the sale of it is equivalent to the sale of red oxide of mercury.

181/50. Jelloid.—We think you will find on inquiry that the syrup of hypophosphites which you mention does not contain strychnine as such, but a preparation of nux vomica, and therefore is in Part 2 of the Poisons Schedule.

182/29. Oxon.—The High Court decision which we obtained in 1893 in regard to the use of the description "Veterinary Chemist" by a pharmacentical chemist covers your case.

183/11. Puck.—We do not recollect any case of a chemist's manager proving that the custom of the trade is for managers to get more than the usual month's notice, nor do we think that that is the custom.

178/63. E. M.—Your label No. 2 is a device distinct from the one which yon have already registered as a trade-mark, and we think you should certainly attempt to get it registered. In any case, your statement on No. 2 that it is "Registered trade-mark No.——" may bring yon into trouble, as it is illegal to so use the word "registered."

185/10. J. R. B. asks, "May a M.R.C.V.S. legally keep open shop and retail scheduled poisons for €trictly veterinary purposes, and dispense 'veterinary prescriptions' containing poisons (after the manner of doctors' shops)?" [He may not. By the 1868 Act nothing in the first fifteen clauses "shall extend to or interfere with the business" of any such person, but by the amending Act of 1869 that provision is amended so that nothing in the first fifteen clauses shall prevent any such person "from dispensing medicines for animals under his care." The Pharmacentical Society has never had the opportunity of determining in court whether or not the amendment of the 1868 provisions is equivalent to a reo€al; but we understand that the Society has privately succeeded in stopping veterinarians from selling poisons to all and sundry. Veterinarians are not €xempt from the provisions of Section 17 of the 1868 Act, which requires, amongst other things, all poisons in Part 1 of the Schedule to be entered in the poisons-book and the signature of purchaser obtained.]

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

143/20. Eau de Cologne —A solution of chlorate of potash and salicylate of soda should keep without decomposition.

156/9. G. F. G. G.—The preminm for an indoor apprentice varies from 50l. to 90l. for a three-years' apprenticeship. Outdoor apprentices do not, as a rule, pay a premium, but sometimes deposit a sum of money which is repaid as salary.

158/55.— G. N. B.—For information on qualifying as an analyst see Educational Number, September 2, page 418.

A little to be well rubbed into the muscles for five minutesafter each spell of training.

152/17. Vet.—(1) This question does not come within the scope of this column (2) Cod-liver oil affects the flavour of the meat if given to animals, but if discontinued a few months before killing it is not likely to have any flavouring-effect.

158/60. R. H.—The antiferment used for cider is bisnl-phite-of-lime solution It is used in the proportion of 1 cz. to 8 or 10 gals. of cider.

160/24. J. W. G.—The most permanent bright-blue carboy-colour(is the ammonio-sulphate of copper one. Make a solution of sulphate of copper in water, add ammonia until the precipitate at first formed is re-dissolved, and dilutewith distilled water to the required tint. The usnal fault in making this carboy-colour is to leave it so concentrated that the light cannot readily penetrate, thus destrojing the beautiful effect of transmitted light on the colour.

144/28. Rubrum — From your letter we judge that the flushings of heat in the face you suffer from are due to self-consciousness. Drugs are of little avail in that condition, but you can master it to a great degree by mixing with cheerful companions and taking plenty of open-air exercise.

98/13. Scientia.—We have found that although most-aniline yellows turn of an orange-colour with acid, if the-colours are further diluted a lemon-colour is obtained.

158/73. Cymro.—Wind-pills:—

Ext. aloes aq.... 3ss. ... *** Pulv. capsici ... gr. x. ••• Pulv. ipecac gr. x. Əij. • • • • ••• ••• Ext. anthem •••

M. Divide in pil. xxx.

One or two pills to be taken after the principal meal.

152/5. Aloes.—Digestive Wine:—

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Mix, allow to stand twenty-four hours, and filter.

One wineglassful to be taken just after meals.

69/3. Albino.—We cannot make out from your letter what it is you want exactly. Sulphnr, chlorine and peroxide of hydrogen are the three things used for bleaching hair.

172/9. Inquirer.—Pil. aloes et myrrhæ is a perfectly safepill for women at the menopause. In some cases it may be alternated with pil. aloes et asafetidæ co.

108/8. Subscriber.—The cow case which you describe isprobably one of Fardel-bound, or impaction of the third stomach with innutritious fibrinous food. Single strong aperient doses are not advisable, but continuous softening of the contents by repeated small doses of linseed oil are good—say, 4 oz. night and morning until results are obtained. The paralysis which results after a time may be treated by the addition of tr. nuc. vom. mv. nocte maneque and mag. snlph. or sodii sulph. substituted for ol. lini.

Trade Report.

The prices quoted below are the bottom prices obtained for bulk quantities by importers and manufacturers, who do not supply retailers. They are in many cases exclusive of various charges.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: November 30.

TRADE generally is very quiet this week, and orders are mostly for small quantities only, now that the close of the year is approaching. Taking the month on an average, however, it compares well with previous years, the heavy-chemical trade alone having been brisk, especially for forward delivery. The monthly drug-statistics will also show good deliveries of staple drugs such as benzoin, ipecacuanha, rhubarb, senna, &c. The Bank-rate has advanced to 6 per cent. to-day. The following are the principal changes of the week:—

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Acid, carbolic Acid, chrysophanic Belladonna root Condurango Menthol Nux vomica Oil, cottonseed Ginger (Cochin and Jap.)	Ammonia sulphate Buchu Wax, ceresin Pot. pruss. (yellow)	Camphor Oil, palm Oil, pepper mint Pepper	Acid, citric Isinglass Quinine

The following drugs have arrived at the ports of London, Liverpool, Southampton, and Hull, from November 23 to 29, both inclusive:—Aloes (Cape), 15; aniseed, 16; arrowroot (St. V.), 43; benzoin, 31; camphor (Jap.), 64; camphor oil, 250; cardamoms, 103; cassia oil, 20; castor oil (Ital.) 60, (Belg.) 10, (E.I.) 449, (Fr.) 363; cinchona (Callao) 10, (from Amst.) 36, (E.I.), 78; citronella oil, 22; cocaine (crude), 5; cocoa butter, 12; cochineal, 80; cod-liver oil, 596; colocynth, 6; croton seed, 10; eucalyptus oil, 74; fenugreek, seed, 766; gentian, 48, (powder) 10; gum arabic (Aden) 122, (Australian) 100, (Trieste) 88, (Bombay) 40, (Marseilles) 18, (Lisbon) 65; honey (Aust.) 45, (Chil.) 58; kola (W.C.A.), 5; juniper-berries, 405; liquorice-root, 20; lemon juice, 20; manna, 6; matico, 16; menthol, 10; oil, cod-liver, 5; oil, lime, 11; oil, peppermint, 50; opium, 4; orrisroot, 25; pistachio-nuts, 21; quicksilver, 226; scammonium, 5; senna (Tiny.), 538; safiron, 16; tonca-beans, 10; vanilla, 137; wax, bees' (Ital.) 17, (E.I.) 25, (from Hamburg) 22; wax, Japanese, 409.

Mincing Lane War-fund.

Precisely at four o'clock on Monday the memhers of the Commercial Sale-Rooms assembled in accordance with a printed notice to officially close the special Mincing Lane list. There was a large gathering, and Mr. A. H. Rolls (chairman of the first meeting) again presided. He said they had now met together to give an account of their services. and he had great pleasure in announcing that the total amount received up to Monday was 11,160%. It was originally proposed that the fund should close that day, but in view of the fact that subscriptions were still coming in, and that there were others willing to help, they proposed to keep the fund open for a few days longer. He also referred to the splencid work rendered by Mr. H. W. Price, the treasurer, Mr. W W. Green, the secretary, Mr. Andrew Devitt, the originator of the movement, and other gentlemen who are connected with the tea-trade. It was the biggest thing Mincing Lane had done, and he was proud of it. (Applause.) Their best thanks were also due to their foreign friends connected with Mincing Lane for the very liberal manner in which they had helped them. Mr. H. W. Price next rose and said that in thanking the various gentlemen mentioned Mr. Rolls had forgotten to mention his own enthusiasm He congratulated Mr. Rolls on his prescience and the way in which he introduced the fund to the members. Personally

he had had very little trouble, and thanks were due all round. There had been no begging—the money had simply fallen in. Two amounts aggregating nearly 9 000% had been handed to the Mansion-House Fund, leaving about 2,000%. still to be sent, and by the end of the month he still hoped to further increase this balance. Mr. W. W. Green also heartily thanked the members for their very able support. He announced that the subscriptions contained twenty-six amounts of over 100% each, the remainder being made up of 550 items of various amounts. Perhaps if the war was protracted they would have to make another call upon them, but he was sure that if they had Mincing Lane would again come to the front. (Applause.) The committee were then thanked for their labours, and the patriotism of the members was again shown when, with heads uncovered, the "National Anthem" was sung, after which three ringing cheers were given for Queen and country, and the meeting dispersed. The total amount collected up to Thursday afternoon was 11,111*l*. 5s.

[Further subscriptions are mentioned under our War Notes, page 922]

The Japanese Peppermint Harvest.

The second cutting is about to be finished in Ujen, and distillation will begin on or after November 10. Owing to the very unfavourable weather and heavy rains after the first cutting this season's harvest is greatly reduced, and it will be smaller than was at first auticipated. It is now estimated that the crop will not exceed 54,000 catties in both the Ujen and Bingo districts. There is, however, a good stock held over from last year, and altogether the amount available in the future will not be less than 150,000 catties. Meanwhile holders are generally very firm; the present quotation is 4.50 yen per catty for crystals, and 2.10 yen per catty for crystals, and 2.10 yen per catty for a 40-per-cent. oil. Large transactions are being put through at a shade below these figures. It is generally believed the poor crop in the United States will increase the demand for Japanese products. During the past ten days some twelve cases of crystals were shipped to New York, and sixty cases to London. There is every prospect of an advance, and holders generally do not want to dispose of their produce at the figures now ruling.—[This advance has since come about.—Ed.]

Heavy Chemicals.

[These prices are for other market-centres than London.]

The heavy-chemical market continues in a very active condition, and a good all-round business is being transacted at all the main centres. The great trouble with many works just at present is to keep pace with the existing demand and to execute orders quickly enough. It is also pleasing to note that the home demand is an exceptionally good one for the time of the year, and there appears to be every probability that this condition of affairs will continue. Prices keep very steady with still further advancing tendency.

Prices keep very steady with still further advancing tendency.

ALKALI PRODUCE.—Products under this heading remain much as lately reported. Bleaching-powder is in brisk request both on home and export account. Softwood casks on rails 6l., f.o.b. Liverpool 6l. 2s. 6l., and f.o.b. Tyne 6l. to 6l. 5s. Caustic soda is also in very active demand, and, although prices at the moment show no actual change, higher figures are quite probable: 76 per cent., 10l.; 74 per cent., 9l. 10s. to 9l. 15s.; 70 per cent., 9l. to 9l. 5s.; and 60 per cent., 8l. to 8l. 5s. Anmonia alkali is very firm at 4l. 7s. 6l. to 4l. 12s. 6l. free on rails. Yellow prussiate of potash is firmer again, and now stands at about 8l. per 1b. for best Lancashire makes. Salt cake firmer and in better request at 27s. to 28s. per ton on rails in bulk. Chlorates of potash and soda quiet and unchanged.

South Durham Salt dearer and very firm at 10s. per ton, f.o.b.

Tees.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA firm; Beckton January-March 111. 7s. 6d., Beckton terms 111. London, Hull, and Leith all stand at about 111. 5s, with January-March delivery 111. 10s. Exports from Leith last week amounted to 510 tons.

Tar Products firm. Carbolics are dearer and very scarce. Benzols quiet: 90 per cent. $9\frac{1}{2}d$. to 10d., and 50 per cent. $10\frac{1}{2}d$. to

11d. per gallon.

ALUMINA PRODUCTS in brisk request and prices have strong advancing tendency. Crystal alum very firm loose lump, 4l. 12s. 6d. to 4l. 17s. 6d. to 5l. per ton; lump in tierces, 4l. 17s. 6d. to 5l. per ton; and ground, 5l. 5s. to 5l. 10s. per ton, in bags, free on rails. White sulphate of alumina, purest makes, practically free of iron, in heavy demand at 82s. 6d. to 87s. 6d. per ton on rails in usual casks, with customary allowances for bags or loose slabs. Aluminoferric moving steadily at 42s. 6d. to 45s. per ton. Aluminous cake in steady request at 45s. to 50s. per ton. Sewage alum 45s. to 47s. 6d. per ton, free on rails. Hydrate of alumina of high percentage is moving well at 11l. 10s. to 12l. per ton in casks. Bauxite, 60-per-cent. alumina, 16s. 4d. to 16s. 6d. per ton, f.o.h.

Chloride of aluminium, 10l. 10s. to 11l. per ton in casks, free on rails. Aluminate of soda, highest strength Al_2O_5 , 37s. 6d. to 40s. per cwt., according to quantity. Carbonate of alumina, 35s. to 37s. 6d. per cwt.

Liverpool Market.

Liverpool, November 30.

Castor Oil remains unchanged at 3d. per lb. on the spot, but perhaps somewhat less would be taken for later delivery.

AFRICAN GINGER.—A large parcel has sold at 25s. per cwt., and the market has now an upward tendency. Fine Cochin is held

for 30s., and a lower bid has been refused.

Beeswax.—Some considerable sales have taken place of Chilian at 7l. per cwt., and the price closes at 7l. 2s. 6d. to 7l. 5s.,

according to quality.

IRISH Moss.—The market is almost entirely bare, 8l. ex quay being asked for the small quantities available.

TURPENTINE remains firm at 37s. 9d. per cwt.

Honey.—There have been some transactions in Chilian from 23s. to 31s. per cwt., according to quality. The market has been entirely cleared of all grades. Californian remains very scarce, and only a small quantity offers, at 46s. 6d. per cwt.

QUILLAIA-BARK.—There are buyers at 13t., and sellers at 13t. 5s.
per ton. Not much business has been transacted.

OLIVE OIL.—There has been considerable business done in all grades, notwithstanding the advanced prices. Reports come of higher prices being paid in the producing districts.

German Drug Market.

Hamburg, November 28.

Our drug-market shows little business this week, with the exception of a few articles.

AGAR AGAR is again dearer; 390m. per 100 kilos. is now asked. ALOES, CAPE, continues very firm at 65m. per 100 kilos. BALSAM PERU is quiet at 14 m. to 14 m. per kilo.

CITRIC ACID is quiet and easier at 270m. per 100 kilos.

Camphor (Refine) is not quite so strong as it was. The factories' prices are unchanged; but second-hand holders try to realise their month-contracts, and depress the market. Spot delivery from second hands can be bought to-day at 390m. to 385m. per 100 kilos.

CASCARA SAGRADA is steady at 60m. per 100 kilos.

CONDURANGO-BARK is dearer; holders now ask 175m. per 100

COCA-LEAVES are firm at 375m. per 100 kilos. Ergot of Rye is unchanged at 4.75m. to 5m. per kilo., accord-

ing to quality.

Lycopodium continues to show a strong market; the Russian supplies are not large, and 390m. to 3921m. has been paid here.

MENTHOL is very firm, with a good demand; to-day's quotatiou is 19m. per kilo.

QUININE is neglected and unchanged, nominally 37m. per kilo. Spermaceti is firmly held at 285m. per 100 kilos.

Wax (Japan) is unchanged at 63m. per 100 kilos

OILS.—Cod-liver is unchanged, but firm, at 67m. per barrel. Castor oil is quiet and slow of sale; first-pressing, in barrels, at 54m. to 53½m. per 100 kilos. Peppermint oil is firm at 5.10m. per lb. for HGH. Japanese at 8¼m. per kilo.

American Market.

New York, November 21.

Business continues good, and the market maintains a steady

Aloes.—Curaçoa is very strong at 4½c. to 5c. per lb., but busi-

ness is small. Cape is out of the market.

Buchu-leaves.—Only a few small packages of "short" are offered and for these most holders ask 33c.; inferior grades are

quoted at 30c. "Long" are firm at 25c. to 28c. per lb.

Balsams.—Copaiba is firmly held and the stock is well concen-

trated. Central American can be bought at 40c. per lb. and Para at 45c. Peru is casy at \$1.65. Tolu is firmer, and 31c. per lb. is asked for prime quality.

ACONITE-ROOT. - The market is bare, and quotations are nominal.

CASCARA SAGRADA is coming forward slowly, and supplies on the spot are light. The lowest quotation for new bark is now 5c., but in many quarters a decline is anticipated as the season advances.

COCA-LEAVES.—Truxillo have further advanced to 29c. per lb. COD-LEAVES.—Iruxino have intrier advanced to 29c. per 1b. COD-LIVER OIL.—Business is restricted owing to scarcity of supplies and difficulty in procuring the oil from first hands. Values are firm at \$26 to \$27, and the tendency is upward. Ergot.—Russian is scarce and firm at 55c. per 1b., but the demand is moderate. Spanish is offered very sparingly, and 70c. to 90c. is asked for the small amount available.

CAMPHOR.—Domestic refined has advanced to 51c. in b ? rels,

and is in good demand at this figure.

GOLDEN SEAL (HYDRASTIS) is firm at 60c.

SENEGA-ROOT.—Considerable sales have been made at current Western is held at 50c., and Southern 43c. to 45c. per lb. SARSAPARILLA. - Mexican is firmer and a fraction higher, 8 c. per lb. being asked Supplies are reduced.

QUININE is quiet, but values are firm at 27c. to 30c. per oz., according to brand. A Government order for 5,000,000 3-gr.

pills has been filled on a basis of 21c. per oz.

WAHOO-ROOT BARK is extremely scarce, and prices have advanced to 20c. per lb.

WINTERGREEN OIL.—Natural oil has been advanced to \$2.50. SASSAFRAS-BARK is higher owing to diminished stocks; 9c, per lb. is now asked.

Beeswax is a fraction higher, 27½c. per lb. being asked for ordinary pure, and 29c. for selected.

Cablegrams.

SMYRNA, November 29, 11.10 A.M.:-Most of the stock here is in the hands of firm holders who are not seller; at the moment. The large bayers anticipate that there will be a considerable advance. From 8s. 5d. to 8s. 10d. per lb. f.o.b., is asked to-day.

NEW YORK, November 30, 3 P.M :—The drug-market is steady. Arrivals of both Truxillo and Huanuco coca-leaves have taken place, and the tone is easier in consequence, at 23c. per lb. and 30s. respectively. Balsam tolu has advanced to 31c. Rio ipecacuanha is easier at \$350 per 1b., while cannabis indica is strong at 17c. per lb. Cape aloes is very scarce; 8c. is wanted for good hard. Mexican sarsaparilla is dearer at 9c. per lb., and for sassafras bark 10c. per lb. is wanted. Both articles are in small supply.

HAMBURG, November 30, 230 P.M.:—The maket tone is firmer. Menthol is now 21m. per kilo.; lycopodium is 397m. per 100 kilos, and Condurango is 200m. per 100 kilos. Refined camphor in second hands is quiet, 330m. per 100 kilos, being the prevailing price.

London Markets.

ACID, CARBOLIC, is again dearer, but prices are naminal. Most makers reported to have been sold out for promot delivery. Ice crystals, 39° to 40° C, are now quoted at $9\frac{1}{3}d$. to $9\frac{3}{4}d$ per lb. on the spot, 34° to 35° C, $8\frac{3}{4}d$ to 9d. Unde 60 per cent, 2s. 7d to 2s 9d., 75 per cent, 3s. 3d. to 3s. 6d. Cresylic, 95 per cent., 1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d. per gallon.

ACID, CHRYSOPHANIC .- As the result of an agreement between English and German makers, quotations have been advanced to 7s. per lb. for 28 or 56 lb. lots.

ACID CITRIC — Dull of sale, with sellers of English crystals at 1s. $2\frac{1}{2}d$. per lb. and 1s. 2d. for foreign, with slightly lower prices for forward delivery.

ALOES —A few kegs of Socotrine have been placed this week at 75s. per cwt. The Curacao in goards offered in last week's auctions were still on hand on Wednesday. One hundred cases of this description have arrived this week.

ARROWROOT.—Quiet. A parcel of good St. Vircent offered at auction on Wednesday was bought in at 5d. per lb.

Belladonna Root.—For good medium quality 42s. per cwt. has been paid this week.

BENZOIN.-The demand for medium to fair Sumatra seconds still continues, at from 61. to 71. per cwt. according to quality.

BUCHU.—For good green long leaves a slight advance on the auction price is asked, viz. $9\frac{1}{2}d$. to 10d. per lb. There is likely to be a new arrival of round leaves in sale next week.

CAMPHOR.—The crude market is very quiet with an easier tendency, there being sellers of Chinese at 162s. 61. per cwt. spot, and Japanese at 170s. For arrival 160s. and 156s., c.i.f., is quoted respectively.

CHAMOMILES.—The demand continues at unchanged rates, viz. from 75s. to 85s. per cwt. for No. 1 according to colour.

CINCHONA.—The cinchona auctions to be held in Amsterdam on December 7 will consist of 6 343 bales, 49 bales and 694 cases, total 7,087 packages (608,704 kilos.) Java bark, containing a total of 28,715 kilos. quinine sulphate. The average percentage of quinine is 5.14 per cent. against 5.32 per cent. in November, whereas the average percentage for the ten auctions of 1898 was 5.21 per cent. The exports from Ceylon for the week ending November 7 were 13,588 lbs., and from January 1 to November 7 they were:

1899 1898 1897 1896 Lbs. ... 566,177 776,475 611,926 1,231,359

CINNAMON.—At the quarterly sales held last Monday a large quantity was offered, and buyers expected to get what they wanted at a substantial reduction. But holders did not take this view, and the first catalogue (containing the greater proportion) passed without any sale being effected. The result was that the remainder sold at full prices for fine qualities, and at only 1s. 2d. per lb. decline for medium and common. Since the auctions some of the bought-in lots have been sold on this basis.

CONDURANGO BARK.—There have been several inquiries about of late for export, and buvers have had to pay dearer rates. A current quotation is 110s. per cwt., c.i.f.

COBIANDER-SEED.—In auction 60 bags of fair clean Morocco offered, and sold without reserve, at $10s.\ 6d.$ per cwt.

Oubers have been in more inquiry this week, and although there is a fair stock it is well held; 24s. per cwt. is wanted for grey and brown bernies.

DRAGON'S BLOOD.—A few cases of medium lump, ex the auctions, have sold at from 8l. to 9l. per cwt.

GALLS—Persian have been in fair demand, with sales of blue at 69s. to 70s. per cwt; but the stock is now principally in the hands of one holder, who asks extreme prices. Chinese quiet, at nominal rates, owing to scarcity. Japanese are quoted at 58s., c.i.f.

Shanghai advices, dated October 16, report that Szechuen galls have not yet arrived, and it is almost certain that the crop has been a failure. Very high prices are being asked for plum-shape, which is preventing business. The September shipments from Shanghai were 961 piculs.

GUM ARABIC.—The auctions to-day presented a total of 2,771 packages, East Indian gums, as usual, largely predominating. Demand was very poor, and only 150 packages of all descriptions sold publicly at the following rates:—Aden, half-picked, 52s. 6d. Bombay-Aden, scented-kind, 40s. to 42s. 6d.; reddish, 35s. Ghatti, ordinary woody sorts, 9s 6d., subject, and 12s. per cwt. Barbary, blocky sea damaged, 39s. 6d. to 40s. 6d. per cwt., without reserve. Mogador-Amrad, 40s., and sea-damaged, 16s. Privately the market is steady, with recent sales of Soudan sorts at 80s. per cwt. for good soft, and 65s. for hard. In so-called Persian insoluble sorts sales on "quay terms" have been made at 18s., and worked at 18s. for good sorts exwarehouse.

GUM, MYRRH.—Seven cases of dark and blocky pickings from Bombay sold in auction at 38s. per cwt.

GUM, OLIBANUM. — In auction to day 341 packages offered, of which 6 cases only sold per cwt. being paid for siftings. Privately ordinary to fair palish drop has been sold at from 25s. to 40s. per cwt.; garblings and siftings are scarce.

GUM TRAGACANTH—Business lately has been mostly in the low grades of Bagdad at from 50s. to 6l. 15s. per cwt., with a few lots of seconds at 14l., and thirds at 11l 10s. per cwt. Small sales of Bussora hog gum have been made at 31s. The stock of Smyrna is practically exhausted.

HONEY.—Sales of good liquid white Italian have been made at 34s. per cwt., spot. Another bolder quotes yellow, in barrels, at 25s., and extra white, in 56-lb. or 1-cwt. tins, 33s., c. and f.

IPECACUANHA —Since the auctions the market is reported firmer, and R₁₀ has enanged hands at 12s 6d. per lb.; for Cartagena 8s. 9d to 9s. is wanted. The stock of Rio in the warehouses is 240 bales, and Cartagena, 50 bales, to which may be added 30 about landing.

ISINGLASS.—At auction on Tuesday large supplies, amounting to 882 packages, were offered, and met with a poor demand and lower offers. Fine Saigon leaf was 2d. to 3d.

per lb. lower. Brazil lump sold at 1d. decline. Bombay firmly held.

MENTHOL.—Again dearer, sales having been made on Wednesday at 9s 6d. per 1b., spot, and there are now few sellers. The cif. price has been advanced to 10s. $4\frac{1}{2}d$., which is out of all proportion.

NUX VOMICA remains scarce and dear, 8s. 3d. per cwt. spot having been paid this week for Calcutta seed. Some forty or fifty tons have been recently sold on a higher c.i.f. basis than the above figure. For good Cochin as much as 14s. is wanted.

OIL, ANISE, STAR, is again slightly lower, there now being sellers at 6s. 1d. per 1b. on the spot; but little, if any, business is being done. For arrival 6s 3d., c.i.f., is asked.

OIL, CASTOR.—Quiet. Finest medicinal Italian is quoted 33s. 6d. to 34s. per cwt. c.i.f., and "waterwhite" at 32s. 6d. Belgian, first pressing spot, 27s.; forward delivery, 25s. 6d. f.o.b. Antwerp; second pressing, 26s. spot. Hull make 29s. 6d. in barrels for medicinal and 3 9-16d. in cases. First pressing, 27s. in barrels, and 3 3 16d. in cases; seconds not offered.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—Sales this week have been made at 77s 6d. per cwt., cif., although a large order at this figure has only been partially filled. In other quarters 80s is wanted.

Bergen, November 25.—The market is unchanged. Buyers

Bergen, November 25.—The market is unchanged. Buyers are now reducing their wants as much as possible, but are obliged to procure what little they must have at rapidly advancing prices. The last price was 72s. per barrel, f.o.b. The exports to date are 13,176 barrels, against 7,414 at the same time last year.

OIL, OLIVE.—Very firm. Cream, extra, is quoted 65l.; cream, 63l; extra sublime, 60l.; sublime, 60l.; and superfine, 50l per ton of 1015 kilos. in pipes, c. and f.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—American HGH has sold this week at 5s. 3d. per lb spot, but for quantity less would be taken. Japanese is 3s. 9d. to 3s. $10\frac{1}{2}d$.; and 40-per-cent. oil 5s. 3d. per lb. spot.

OIL, SASSAFRAS.—A little is obtainable at 2s. per lb., spot.

OPIUM.—Quiet and unchanged. In Persian, small sales have been made at 12s. 3d. to 12s 6d. per 1b. for fine.

SMYRNA, November 17.—Owing to American buyers coming forward again early this week the market has assumed a firmer tone. Bids for quantity were at first made at 1d. per lb. lower than last week's prices, but holders would not listen to anything under 8s. 2d. for new tale quale, so shippers gave in, and about 60 cases changed hands, mostly for the United States. To-day the market closes firmer, but it is not expected that any big advance will take place. The arrivals to date are 2,191 cases, against 1.124 at the same time last year.

against 1,124 at the same time last year.

CONSTANTINOPLE, November 24.—During the past fortnight this market has been gradually hardening owing to reduced stocks, and whereas there were sellers a short while back at 7s. 10d. to 7s. 11d. per lb. f.o.b. for ordinary druggists', to-day 8s. 1d. to 8s. 2d. is generally asked, and even at these figures quantity is unobtainable. The fortnight's sales comprise 50 cases druggists' at 7s. 10d. to 8s. 1d., 20 cases Balukissars at 8s. 2d. to 8s. 4d., 10 cases Holland selection at 8s. 4d. Stock here is composed of 250 cases druggists' and 300 cases soft shipping. From all accounts very little remains inland, so the outside world will, so to speak, have to depend upon stocks already accumulated here and in Smyrna for their requirements during the next eight or nine months. Taking into account what will under any circumstances be held on this side until next crop comes in, the available stock is now reduced to a minimum. At the same time, if new-crop prospects continue as favourable as at present, there is no reason for any marked advance provided nothing untoward occurs to disturb the usual course of things.

ORRIS.—Quiet. The following c. and f. quotations are to hand from Legborn this week. Florentine, extra-picked, 51s. per cwt; prime sorts, 47s. 6d; small white, 46s 6d. Verona, large pieces, 29s. 6d.; small, 28s. 6d.; seconds ditto, 25s. per cwt.

QUICKSILVER is in a very firm position, and another 2s 6d. advance looks imminent. There is no second-hand stock.

QUININE is quiet and lower on the week in second hands, there being sellers on Wednesday of good German brands at 1s. $1\frac{3}{2}d$ per oz. for spot, and 1s. 2d for March delivery. Makers' prices are unaltered at 1s. 2d for 1.000 cz. lots.

The exports from Java during September were 130 cases, all of which were shipped to Holland. From July 1 to September 30,

1899, 562 eases have been shipped, against 396 cases for the corresponding period of 1898.

SAFFRON.-A considerable business has been done this week at 38s 6d per lb. net, London terms, for fluest Valencia "as imported." Prices are not likely to be lower, as the crop is very small.

SCAMMONIUM.—A small sale of virgin seconds has been made at 19s. per lb., but otherwise there is little demand. Firsts are held for 30s.

SENNA,-There has been a good demand for Tinnevelly since the auctions, and in second-hands there is little or nothing available, the bulk of the purchases last week baving either been exported or gone iuto consumption. Present prices are too high for second-holders to operate.

SHELLAC has been quiet throughout the week, with small sales at previous rates, including fair second orange TN at \$3s. per cwt. spot. The market for forward delivery is quite iuactive and without alteration.

SPICES.—Business has been quiet this week. At auction on Wednesday cut qualities of Cochin Ginger were dearer, good bold selling at 92s. 6d. per cwt., medium and bold at 67s. 6d., small and medium at 48s. 6d., and small at 37s. to 38s.; common small native cut sold at 30s. per cwt., and dull unassorted at 44s. per cwt. Rough kinds brought only steady prices: dull to good cuttings, 18s. 6d. to 19s.; bright small washed, 23s.; and Calicut brown rough, 26s. to 26s. 6d. per cwt. Japan is dearer, with small sales at 24s. 6d per .cwt. Bengal steady, at 23s. 6d. to 24s. per .cwt. Zanzibar *Cloves* quiet: good fair sold at $3\frac{1}{2}d$. per lb.; the quotation for March-May delivery is $3\frac{\pi}{16}d$. per lb. Peuang bought in at 6d. per lb. for ordinary and at 9d. for good. Pimento steady: common brought $3\frac{1}{4}d$., and fair ordinary clean $3\frac{3}{8}d$. per lb. A small lot of Zanzibar Chillies sold at 46s. per cwt. Nutnegs quiet. Mace slow; fair red was bought in at 1s 6d. to 1s. 8d., and good at 2s. 4d. per lb. Pepper quiet, and rather easier for distant positious, Siugapore black having been done at $6\frac{1}{32}d$. for February-April shipment. White Singapore has been sold at $8\frac{13}{16}d$. per lb. for uear position. Spot values are unaltered, at 81/2 d. for Penaug and $8\frac{7}{8}d$. for Singapore.

STRAMONIUM-LEAVES.—Iu fair inquiry, at from 40s. to 48s. per cwt, c.i.f., the latter figure being for picked green leaves. Rubbed are 45s. to 46s.

STRYCHNINE.—Advices from Germany state that prices have recently been advanced by 6m. per kilo. owing to the Targe cousumptive demand during the past few weeks and the firm position of the raw material.

SULPHONAL.-There are few orders about, and the makers' quotations are unchanged at 16s. 6d. per lb. for 10 lb. lots, with second-hand sellers at 14s. to 14s. 6d. per lb.

THYMOL.—Very firm, but quiet, buyers having filled their requirements; 10s. per lb. is now the figure in second hands.

TURMERIC.—Quiet, but firm, with small sales of Bengal at 29s. per cwt., and Cochin, split bulbs, at 12s; fair to good bright Madras finger is quoted at 35s. to 37s. 6d.

Shanghai advices, dated October 16, report that the new crop has not yet arrived on the market, and that Szechuan merchants, talk of scarcity this season. The shipments from Shanghai during September amounted to 140 piculs, 100 of which went to Martine and 100 the Lindburg. seilles, and 40 to Hamburg.

VALEBIAN.—Continental advices report that owing to the strong consumptive demand in Thuringen for the new, almost the entire production has passed from the hands of the producers to those of the merchants. Prices have advanced almost daily, 120 m. to 130 m. per 100 kilos. no w being asked. Sopplies from the Hartz district appear to get smaller every year, and there is noue to be had from that quarter. The last business in London was at 37s. 6d. per cwt. c.i.f.

WAX, BEES'.—Genuine Italian is quoted 61. 5s. per cwt. c.i.f. in 2-cwt. cases. Sales at 6l. 10s. have been made this week ex wharf in another quarter.

WAX, CERESIN.—High grades are now scarce, and prices are nominal; the last price paid for 170° F., natural, was 51s. per cwt. c.i.f., and for 164° F., natural, 49s. 6d.; orange or lemon colour, 50s per cwt.

Coming Events.

Monday, December 4.

Society of Chemical Industry (London Section), Burlington, House, Piccadilly, W., at 8 P.M.

Taesday, December 5.

Bradford and District Chemists' Association, County Restaurant, Bradford, at 9 P.M. Musical evening.

Royal Colonial Institute, Whiteball Rooms, Hotel Mctropole, at 8 r.M. Paper by the Hon. S. A. Stephen on "New South Wales, Past and Present."

Wednesday, December 6.

British Pharmaccutical Conference. A meeting to form an Entertainment Committee will be held at 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., at 3 P.M.

W.C., at 3 P.M.
Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, W.C., at 8 P.M. Mr. Joseph
Cash on "Artificial Silk."
Midland Chemists' Assistants' Association. Exchange Rooms
Birmingham, at 9.15. Paper by Mr. Barclay.
Manchester Pharmaceutical Association, at the Owens College,
at 7.30. "The Way Plants Protect Themselves," by Professor F. E. Weiss.

Thursday, December 7.

Chemists' Assistants' Association, at 7.30. Cinderella dance at Portman Rooms, Baker Street, W. Tickets may be had from Mr. Morley, 3 Bucklersbury, E.C., or Mr. H. H. Robins, 113 Ridley Road, Forest Gate, E.

113 Ridley Road, Forest Gate, E.

Chemical Society, Burlington House, W., at 8 p.m. Papers to be read:—"The Oxidation of certain Organic Acids in Presence of Iron," by Messrs. H. J. H. Fenton and H. O. Jones; "The Determination of the Constitution of Fatty Acids," Part II., by Dr. A. W. Crossley and Mr. H. R. Le Sueur; "On Sulphates of the form R', SO, 2M"SO, especially those of Isometric Crystallisation," by Mr. F. R. Mallet

Midland Pharmaceutical Association. Smoking-concert at the Great Western Hotel, at 8.45 p.m., Mr. G. E. Perry chairman.

Friday, December 8.

Glasgow School of Pharmazy. The third annual supper will be held in the North British Station Hotel, George Square, Glasgow, at 9 P.M., Mr. John Lothian (Principal) in the chair. Glasgow Chemists and Druggists' Assistants' and Apprentices'

Association, 100 West Regent Street, Glasgow, at 9.15 P.M. Amusements.

Cambridge Pharmaceutical Association, University Lecture-theatre, at 9.15 P.M. Dr. E. Lloyd Jones will lecture on "Sewer-gas."

BABOO ENGLISH .- The Dr. Williams Medicine Company seud us the following quaint communication they have received from Calcutta:-

Honored Sir,—I can't help but to take it to your kind notice, that I am greatly suffering from a bad attack of fever to my system. Last fort-night I have been in a hospital but I got no relief. Though somewhat cured yet that's nothing. The Doctors there, told that I shall soon within six months, get paralysis. I there, told that I shall soon within six months, get paralysis. I am now 19 years old, the case would be very severe to. Don't leave me hopeless, do try kindly. If I dou't get any relief from it. It is sure, no doubt, I shall commit suicide for I can't bear this horrible torture. By day I live alright, as an ordinary person. I do everything, but as night falls, I get into my bed and keep up whole night in agony. I have nobody in this world neither I have got a penny. If you kindly take me to you, and keep me under your treatment I shall be so much beniftted and so highly obliged to you for if as I can't speak out, you shall be so highly obliged to you forl ife as I can't speak out, you shall be the saviour of my life. I pray you heartily, kindly rescue me from this horrible pain. Do to me as you would do, were you my father. Oh Lord, look over me to your wretched son, who is now going to die in agony. You are great and rich, we are wretched going to die in agony. You are great and rich, we are wretched and poor; if you don't look over us! ike father and mother in this greatest danger, our ease is fatal we get nobody to say. Be kind enough and do stand by me and take me as father of my own. It is very very simple thing for you. I promise you, I shall work in your Office 8 or 9 hours a day, faithfully as I shall land there free of charge. Kindly excuse me for the trouble that you shall take for me. Have mercy on me as your own son. Save me, save me please. Reply me very kindly and soon.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
To Hon. Dr. Williams. (Signed) GANENDRA NATH, Sen.

This artless method of asking for a job is, we take it, new in the annals of situation-seeking. Readers will note that

the wily Hindoo judiciously intimates that his ailments only commence after business hours.



THIRD YEAR.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1899.

No. 36.

Review of the Month.

HE Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland have held a Council-meeting and an evening meeting and opened the session of the School of Pharmacy during the last month. Dr. Ninian Falkiner gave the address at the school opening, in which he presented an interesting review of the education required of pharmaceutical chemists. The work of the pharmacist, he said, is essentially commercial in its nature, and efforts should be directed to obtaining some of the dispensing which at present is done for the poorer classes at dispensaries and doctors' surgeries.

There was a long meeting of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain on November 1 at which a resolution of the Law and Parliamentary Committee on the company-pharmacy question was referred back. The report of the meeting is good reading, as most of the councillors stated their views on the subject at some length, and put forward their arguments with much vigour. The report was printed in the C. & D., November 4. No mention of the subject was made at the Irish Council's meeting, as a definite line of action has long ago been agreed upon.

Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, Secretary of the P.A.T.A., has been expounding the new Chemists' Defence Fund at Dewsbury, Bradford, Halifax, and Birmingham. Mr. Johnston has done similar service at Colchester and Great Yarmouth. The scheme promises to be a useful one for chemists, and is being financed by means of a limited liability company called "The Chemists' Defence Association." Chemists desiring the protection and legal aid of the Association must hold at least one 11. share, and pay an annual subscription of 10s. 6d. if members of the P.A.T.A., or 1l. 1s. if they are outside the latter Association.

Among the legal cases published in the C. & D. recently is one in which a chemist was sued for damages in respect to injuries alleged to have been inflicted on a boy through the chemist having given him 8 gr. of atropine in mistake for antifebrin; but a new trial has since been granted. In cases under the Food and Drugs Act are two prosecutions in the North of London for selling carbonate of magnesia for "magnesia." A correspondence is going on as to what cus-

tomers really want when they ask for "magnesia," most of the writers asserting that carbonate of magnesia is required.

The "War Notes," which are a feature of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST at the present time, are being much appreciated. We deal with the matter from the chemist's point of view, information being supplied by our Johannesburg and Cape Town correspondents. Mr. Trembath, a Johannesburg chemist, who has come to England until peace is in sight, contributes an article to the C. & D., November 25, page 858.

An Ordinance for the regulation of pharmacy in the Seychelles has been recently promulgated. Under it the pharmaceutical qualifications of the United Kingdom are recognised. In the Isle of Man a Pharmacy Bill is being considered by the local Legislature. Pharmaceutical chemists of Ireland will be entitled to carry on business in the island, but no mention is made of Irish chemists and druggists and registered druggists.

The following portraits have appeared in the last four numbers of the C. & D.:-

Mr. W. Lloyd-Williams, late assistant manager for Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co., who died on October 29; Mr. W. K. Inglis, chemist and sub-postmaster of Delph; Mr. W. H. E. Thornthwaite, President of the new Optical Society; Mr. W. G. Cross, J.P., of Shrewsbury, who addressed the Midland Pharmaceutical Association at Birmingham on "Pharmaceutical Politics"; Mr. F. McDiarmid, President of the Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices Association; Mr. W. A. Wren, chemist, and Mayor of Taunton; Mr. L. P. Chapman, chemist, and Mayor of Barrow; Mr. H. Bartlett, chemist, and Mayor of Banbury; Mr. Allwood Simpson, chemist, and Mayor of Stalybridge; Major Ross, the discoverer of the relations between man and the malarial mosquito; Mr. A. L. Jones, J.P., Chairman of the Liverpool School of Tropical Diseases; Professor Rubert Boyce, of the University College, Liverpool; and Mr. H. Trembath, the Johannesburg chemist alluded to above.

"Scientific Progress" is the title of a column of abstracts of scientific researches, now published regularly in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. The object of the column is to present in a shortened and readable form the newest discoveries of science, so that pharmacists will be able to keep abreast of the new facts in the world of science.

Darmaceutical Society of Ireland.

COUNCIL MEETING."

THE Council met at 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, on November 1. There were present:—Messrs. R. J. Downes (President), Grindley, Wells, Kelly, Michie, Dr. Walsh, Professor Tichborne, Montgomery (Belfast), Jamison (Belfast), W. J. Baxter (Coleraine), Bernard, Simpson, and

COURTESY AND RECIPROCITY.

The PRESIDENT said their first duty was to welcome their new member, Mr. Jamison. They were pleased to see him amongst them as a representative of druggists, and they hoped frequently to see him at the Council-meetings. Another matter to which he (the President) wished to refer was that they had had Mr. Sidney Vaughan, the President of the Queensland Pharmaceutical Society, with them at the meeting on the previous evening. The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland had asked him to have a conference with the Councils of that Society and of the Society of Great Britain on matters which they wished to have discussed. One of these was the question of reciprocity.

ISLE OF MAN PHARMACY.

A letter, dated October 25, was read from Mr. G. A. Ring, Attorney-General of the Isle of Man. It stated that hitherto there had been no Pharmacy Act in that island, and that he was about to introduce one based on the lines of the English Act of 1868 and the Irish Act of 1875, and intended to adopt the English and Irish registrations. The writer asked for information as to the existing pharmaceutical and chemist qualifications in Ireland and a number of other points.

The draft reply was approved of, and the Registrar was directed to add the thanks of the Council.

THE LIBRARY.

The Council then considered the following resolution passed at the annual meeting :-

That it is desirable that a library on a practical basis be established, available to members, associate druggists, and students of our schools of botany, materia medica, and chemistry, and that books considered necessary for reference be added to the present stock, and a catalogue of same be provided.

Mr. KELLY moved that the resolution be acted on, and pointed out the advantages which the library would confer Besides being a benefit to the rising juniors it would tend to bring the licentiates of the Society together more than in

Mr. BAXTER seconded the motion.

Professor TICHBORNE supported Mr. Kelly's proposal. Their catalogue showed a valuable lot of books, and it was a pity that these should be doing nothing. The Council received a great many presentations and most of the scientific journals. A few more might be added, and he believed that about 51. a year would be the entire cost of the library.

After some further discussion the motion was altered by omitting the words after "chemistry," and adding "that the matter be referred to the School Committee to carry out details," and in that form was passed unanimously.

Donations were received from the Editor of THE OHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of copies of "Diseases and Remedies,"
"Pharmaceutical Formulas," "The Art of Dispensing,"
"Veterinary Counter Practice," and "Proctor's Manual of
Pharmaceutical Testing," for which thanks were voted.

PRIZES FOR PAPERS.

A report of the School Committee stated that they did not consider it expedient to award prizes for papers read at the

evening meetings.

The PRESIDENT said he had proposed that these rrizes should be given because he thought it would induce their licentiates to read papers, and that the education not only of the students but of the licentiates themselves would be thus promoted. He and those in favour of the proposal thought that some stimulus was wanted to make their licentiates

follow up their studies and not sink down to a dead level of work behind the counter. It had been suggested that the three last evening meetings of the session should be devoted to these prize papers, the merits of which should be pronounced upon by independent examiners. It would be open to country members to send up papers for competition.

Mr. MICHIE thought members would be deterred from sending up papers if they thought their work was to be made the subject of adjudication. They should be left to contribute

them of their own free will.

Mr. KELLY maintained the offering of such prizes for papers would elicit the cream of the intelligence of the pharmaceutical chemists of Ireland.

Professor TICHBORNE: I would be more inclined to give prizes for original research. Any smart, clever fellow can write an essay.

The report of the Committee was adopted.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. J. N. Binks was elected Professor of Theoretical hemistry. Mr. Binks held the Young Scholarship at Chemistry. Anderson's College, Glasgow, for three years.

It was decided that copies of the examination-papers

should in future be placed before the Council at the meeting

next succeeding each examination.

On the motion of Mr. GRINDLEY, seconded by Mr. WELLS, the following gentlemen were elected members of the Society:—Messrs. A. J. Cahill, Dublin; G. G. Dixon, Mallow; and T. JL. Foster, Belfast. Messrs. J. T. Chamberlain, Dublin, and J. Hewton, Ballinasloe, were nominated for membership.

This was all the public business.

OPENING OF THE SOHOOLS.

AT the formal opening of the Schools of Pharmacy at 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, on October 31, Dr. NINIAN FALKINER delivered the following address:

THE EDUCATION OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMIST.

Dr. FALKINER said the Pharmaceutical Society was a part of their social system which did not appear to be fully understood or appreciated by the public, and it was a fact now regarded with

horror and amazement that up to the year 1868 in England, and 1875 in Ireland, the practice of pharmacy was open to all, no restrictions, educational or otherwise, being in force. In 1875 the Pharmacy Act for Ireland was passed, which made the Society responsible not only for the education of qualified dispensers, but also the guardians of the public, in preventing the dispensing of medicines and the sale of poisons by ignorant and unqualified persons. unqualified persons. The enormous difficul-



DR. NINIAN FALKINER

ties which the first and subsequent Councils had to encounter could easily be imagined, as the hitherto unquestioned rights of many influential traders were interfered with; but the Council went on steadily fighting a fierce oattle for the interests of the public, the medical profession, and the pharmaceutical chemist. But while engaged in

SUBDUING THEIR ENEMIES

they did not neglect the arts of peace, and from the first had the education of the pharmaceutical chemist in their minds. The Council, having determined to develop the educational equipment of the School, founded a chair in materia medica and botany, to which the Council did him the honour to appoint him as their lecturer, and for which he gave up the examinership in chemistry which he then held.

The subject of materia medica and the study of the British Pharmacopæia could only be undertaken by a student who has a good theoretical and practical acquaintance with chemistry, physics, and botany, which strengthens the suggestion that these three subjects should be taught to the student before he commences the study of materia medica.

The term "materia medica" was a comprehensive one, including at least four distinct branches—namely, materia medica proper (the pharmacognosy of Fitickiger), pharmacoy, pharmacology, and therapeutics. Empirical therapeutic medicines were given to heal disease, because, from previous experience, they were known to have the power of healing; but rational therapeutics consisted in the administration of a drug whose pharmacological action was such as would render it probable that it would move or counteract the existing pathological conditions of the disease.

The lecturer then detailed minutely the scope of the study of pharmacognosy, showing the importance of the proper study of this subject to the welfare of the human race. As an example of the benefit to the community, he instanced the cultivation of the cinchona-tree in India by the British Government, which had reduced the cost of quinine from 13s. per oz. to about 1s. 6d. per oz. in twenty

years.

After defining pharmacy and pharmacology Dr. Falkiner went on to say that in his lectures he always made the Pharmacopeeia his subject, and attempted to approach its study by the light of his knowledge of chemistry, physics, and botany. The oldest ancestor of the B.P. might be taken as the Ebers Papyrus, and in more recent times (the ninth and twelfth centuries) the Arabian work used at Salerno. The first volume used on authority was that of Valerius Cordus at Nuremberg in 1542, and in 1618 the first London Pharmacopeia was printed, of which there were eleven successive editions up to the year 1851. In 1699 the first Edinburgh Pharmacopeia was published, and that of Dublin in 1807. As there were mauy poisonous preparations of the same name, but differing in strength, it became obviously necessary to have a standard work for the three kingdoms, and in 1853 the Medical Act was passed and the first British Pharmacopeia was published. Criticism of that book would not be in place there, but it was to be hoped that some day there would be an International Pharmacopeia, subject to revision at suitable terms.

In addition to the appointment of lecturers the Council of the Society had founded a medal, which was given to the best candidate who presented himself for examination during the year, and he hoped that further development in the direction of prizes might be made in the near future. The Council, by developing the teaching at their School, would free themselves from the criticism which had been made concerning some of the institutions of the country—viz., that the standard of examination was too high and the standard of education too low. That, if true, was obviously a disadvantage to the student. Some might, perhaps, object to the additional expense which the lectures he recommended would entail, but he believed the fees were failly within the scope of any chemist's assistant, and he assured them that the more highly educated the public knew the pharmaceutical chemist to be, the more readily would they pay the prices that skilled and scientific labour demanded. There was, however, another equally important consideration in the education of the pharmaceutical chemist—namely, that of preliminary education—and although the efforts of the Society tend towards the professional side of the question it should be prominently borne in mind that the everyday work of the pharmaceutical chemist is

ESSENTIALLY COMMERCIAL IN ITS NATURE,

and that commercial education should have an equal consideration with the scientific. Until the cash-system becomes universal and compulsory, the keeping, checking, and furnishing of accounts and the consideration of profit and loss and balance sheets, should be the primary education of every business which depends upon the interchange of goods for cash. The four years' compulsory attendance in the shop should supply this need to a large extent, and proper attention should be given to details such as stockkeeping, cleanliness, labelling, and the antiseptic washing of measures, bottles, and apparatus. He did not altogether share the rather

dismal views that the President appeared to take of the prospects of pharmaceutical chemistry. He believed there was no training that developed the resources of a man more than that of practical pharmacy. Some of the most distinguished men of the present day commenced life with no better chances than any pharmaceutical student in that room; and he believed that in that country there were many places in which chemists were wanted, and where they would make comfortable livings. Moreover, as time went on the office of compounders under the Local Government Act would be filled by licentiates of the Society.

Besides the scientific and commercial attributes which are of necessity required for success, the advice of two great men might be remembered with advantage. Tennyson said "Self-knowledge, self-reverence, self-control—these three alone raise men to sovereign power"; and Shakespeare, "Be duteous and courteous and true preferment shall await upon you." "Let your employer's interest always be your first care," continued the doctor; "be absolutely punctual in your attendance to duty; never guess at any weight or measure; learn the doses of the poisons at once, and constantly revise your knowledge of them. Read five pages of the British Pharmacopæia every day, with your chemistry and botany beside you, and, no matter how hard pressed with work you are, do not lose your temper; if you follow on these lines I will promise you that you will not only pass your examina-tion with credit, but also succeed in the path through life which you have adopted." When he was an apprentice nearly twenty-five years ago there was a tablet hung in his bedroom with the following good advice, "Whisky, theatres, and gambling to be avoided." That was the advice of his master long ago, but he was so convinced of the moral improvement that had taken place generally amongst the young men of Dublin that he would not venture to offer such an antiquated maxim to them.

The relation of the pharmaceutical chemist to the public was, he feared, not altogether to the advantage of the former, who was heavily handicapped by not being able to carry the third-class passenger. The great bulk of the people in that country were supplied by the Poor-law system with medicine and medical requisites, and a large portion of the community were provided for by a practitioner who furnishes medical advice and medicine at a very moderate charge. That was a matter which was worthy of the consideration of all—namely, how could the chemists of the

country fairly direct a portion of the

THIRD-CLASS TRAFFIC

in medicines into their busine's? Neither doctors nor chemists could shut their eyes to facts that proclaim the needs of the people; but he must leave it to a more comprehensive mird to adjust that grave difficulty, and he feared that although the Utopia for both doctor and chemist would be the non-existence of the practitioner who supplied medicine, up to the present it could not well be obtainable. The relations of the Colleges of Surgeons and Physicians and the Pharmaceutical Society were of a friendly and confidential character, but there was one important matter which he thought might be set right by the joint action of these three bodies. A restriction should be put upon the repetition of a prescription which was not initialled by the medical practitioner when it contained any poison or drug which might become a habit and an injury to the patient. That such a restriction should be made was obvious. There were few of them who had not seen at some time or other the abuse of a medicine which had been given for a certain purpose and which was never intended by the physician who prescribed it to be repeated.

The VICE-PRESIDENT (Mr. Beggs), as Chairman of the School Committee, proposed a vote of thanks to the

lecture

Mr. Kelly, in seconding, said the Society's schools had not been in existence more than ten years, yet their licentiates had made their mark in the College of Surgeons, the College of Science, the Army examinations, and, in fact, wherever they went.

The PRESIDENT likewise bore testimony to the zeal and ability of Dr. Falkiner. There was one point in Dr. Falkiner's address which he (the President) desired to emphasise—namely, the necessity of not losing sight of the commercial side of the student's education. It ought to be

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borne in mind that the Society's licence was one to keep open shop, and that they never could get rid of the business side of their profession,

The silver medal of the Society was then presented by Dr. MOORE, President of the College of Physicians, to Mr. W. G. Stratton. The successful prize-winner obtained 2362 out of

a possible 300.

The President then introduced Mr. S. J. Vaughan to the meeting. Mr. VAUGHAN said that in Queensland their Government was closely in touch with the pharmaceutical bodies of the colony—so much so that their Pharmacy College received a subsidy of 100 per cent. of its revenue. He did not know how they stood in Great Britain as regarded the Government, or whether the colleges of pharmacy here were subsidised by it; but in Queensland they received every consideration from their Government.

EVENING MEETING.

THE opening meeting of the Winter Session was held on November 6, Mr. R. J. Downes (President) in the chair.

REPORTERS AND COMMITTEE.

Mr. J. A. Ray, Mr. J. Smith, and Mr. W. V. Johnston were re-elected reporters in chemistry, botany, and pharmacy respectively, and the following were elected as a committee for the ensuing year:—Miss Ada Wyatt, and Messrs, H. O'Connor, George Brown, J. T. Turner, D. M. Watson, and J. Michie. Mr. O'Connor having intimated his intention of retiring from the position of Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. V. Johnston was chosen to act as his successor.

The PRESIDENT referred briefly to the work of the past session, and paid a high tribute to the reporters, especially to Mr. Ray, who he said was a first-class officer. With reference to the contemplated

MUSEUM

he understood that an estimate for a mahogany case had been procured from a local firm of cabinet-makers, but it proved to be so high that the matter had to he dropped for the present. What was now most wanted was for the members to rally round the evening meetings and make them a success. The question of awarding prizes was at present an open one, but it would be seen from the report of the Council-meeting that it had not been lost sight of. It had been suggested that the

EVENING MEETINGS

were held with closed doors. He wanted to make it clear that these meetings were open to all licentiates of the Society and students connected there with. When the old Dublin chemical schools were in existence, the members had cards of invitation supplied to them to invite outsiders to the meetings. They could at present have similar tickets, and these could be dated and signed by the member issuing them. The President feared that the evening meetings were not such as to induce the great bulk of licentiates to become

Mr. JOHNSTON: If we give a decent syllabus and offer

some instruction, we may get additional members.

The PRESIDENT: This room is an open one. If a licentiate comes here, and offers information that is useful, we are always very glad to get it; but when certain conditions of membership are laid down the line must be drawn some-The meetings are, however, practically open ones, where. and nobody attending them is ever questioned as to whether he is a member or not.

Mr. JOHNSTON said that that had not been made clear at the start, and it kept away a number of licentiates.

Mr. O'CONNOR said the matter had long since been

adjusted.

The PRESIDENT, in reply to a question, said that membership conferred the right to vote at the annual meeting of the Society and entitled the member to become a candidate for a seat on the Council, and he received a copy of THE OHEMIST AND DRUGGIST free every week.

The syllabus for the ensuing session was submitted and

approved of.

CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' SOCIETY OF IRELAND-NORTHERN BRANCH.

THE committee of this Society met at Garfield Chambers, Belfast on November 13, under the chairmanship of Mr. Wm.

Jamison, V.P.

The CHAIRMAN, in adverting to his recent election upon the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, said the druggists were accustomed to the complaint that they were without representatives. Knowing this, he had been approached and had allowed his name to go forward as a candidate, and, as they were all a vare, had been returned. He was present at the last meeting of the Council, and had been received in the most friendly manner-not only so, but had returned fully convinced that if chemists and druggists were to qualify they could obtain full representation. From what he observed he was satisfied that the Council would gladly welcome their representatives. A good deal of fault had been found with the Council in the past over certain prosecutions instituted by them for violation of the Pharmacy Act, but they must remember that the object of these prosecutions was to protect licentiates of the Society and members against unqualified persons illegally filling prescriptions. He did not entertain the slightest doubt but that, if chemists and druggists brought their grievances under the notice of the Council, they would be reasonably and fairly dealt with.

Mr. WATSON was of opinion that by qualifying and paying their subscriptions as suggested by the Chairman they would be playing into the Council's hands. He had a very clear recollection of how the Pharmaceutical Society had treated

the druggists in the past,
Mr. RANKIN said it was quite evident that the Council now were willing to meet the druggists in a friendly spirit, and now that their Chairman was elected it was for druggists to make him of service to them.

Messrs. S. J. Cairns and R. H. Orr were elected to member-

ship of the Society.

CHITTING.

Arising from some correspondence which was read, a lengthy discussion ensued with reference to several cases of cutting in proprietaties, which the committee were requested to notice. It was ultimately decided to appoint a small committee to deal with the matter.

Guardians' Doings.

How Recoupment is Calculated.

At the meeting of the Omagh Guardians on October 28 a letter was read from the L.G.B. for Ireland stating that recoupment in respect of the cost of medicines will be calculated upon an abatement of 42 per cent., and recoupment on the cost of appliances upon an abatement of 26 per cent.

Overworked Doctors.

The Tipperary Poor-law Guardians have decided to appoint an apothecary to the Union at a salary of 40%. a year, as the combined duty of physician and compounder has, it is stated, killed several doctors through overwork. Ten thousand four hundred people in the district have to be locked after by one medical man.

Blots his Letters with a Towel.

The dispensary officer at Emo complained to the Mountmellick Guardians that in consequence of the insufficient supply of stationery he has to blot his letters with a towel instead of blotting-paper, and asks for pens and ink. The Guardians have resolved to only send sufficient writingmaterials for immediate requirements.

The Contractors to Explain.

The Local Government Board have directed the Guardians of the Fermoy Union to call on the drug-contractor to the Union to replace such medicines as were recently unfavourably reported upon by the analyst, and to furnish an explanation with regard to their quality. The Cork Chemical and Drug Company were notified accordingly.

C. O. D.-Mr. Dolfposs: "Er-and when do I take th's?" Mr. Syrupsquills, the druggist (who knows Dolfposs): "Er-when you pay for it."

Legal Cases.

Irish Pharmacy Act.

MANAGEMENT OF BRANCH SHOPS.

AT Athlone Petty Sessions on November 14, Wm. Doyle, registered druggist, of W. Doyle & Co., druggists, Church Street, Athlone, was proceeded against by Police Sergeant Connolly, ex-officio inspector of weights and measures, for, as alleged, several breaches of the Pharmacy (Ireland) Act, 1875. There were in all six summonses against the defendant for keeping open a shop for selling poisons, which shop he did not personally manage and conduct; and did employ for the purpose of selling poisons an assistant or manager in such shop who was not qualified according to law. The defendant was charged with selling arsenic without obtainthe signature of the purchaser, as required by Section 1, 14 and 15 Vic., chap. 13. The assistant, John Fry, was summoned for retailing the arsenic. The case had been adjourned from a previous court. Sergeant Connolly stated on September 14 he visited Mr. Doyle's shop in Church Street, and asked to be allowed to see the sale-of-poisons book snpposed to be kept. It was produced by Mr. Doyle's assistant, John Fry. He saw in it two ent ies corresponding to those produced (copies of entries on September 11 and 13). They were not complete, inasmnch as they did not show the signature of the purchaser or introducer of the purchaser, if there was one. He asked the assistant if he kept the book showing who made the sale, and he said he did—that he made the sale, and need to make the sales in the absence of Mr. Doyle. He failed to comply with the provisions governing the sale of arsenic, which showed these entries should be completed. Witness enumerated the offences committedviz, (1) keeping open shop not personally managed, on September 11; (2) ditto, on September 13; (3) keeping a shop open on September 11, and having a person managing it who was not qualified; (4) ditto, on September 13; (5) selling arsenic on September 11 without complying with the regulations of the Act; (6) ditto, on September 13.

Mr. John Gaynor, solicitor, said he appeared for the defendant. They admitted the offence, but he asked the Court, if they pleaded guilty of one offence, that the sergeant be directed to withdraw the others.

Captain Preston, in delivering judgment, said they were taking a very lenient view of the case. It was the first prosecution of the kind heard there or on the Roscommon side, where sessions were also held. They were very merciful in selecting the one offence to be dealt with, insomuch as they proceeded on one of the two sections which did not provide a heavy penalty. If they went on the first charge the defendant could not be fined less than 15l, for it was a highly penal statute. They would impose a fine of 20s., and hoped it would be a warning to defendant and others.

This rule was entered, and the remaining cases adjourned forcis months.

for six months.

Claims Allowed.

In the Belfast Recorder's Court, on November 21, W. T. Pollock, wholesale druggist, Belfast, sued James McLarnon, grocer, for 61. 1s. 11d., goods sold and delivered. Defendant's wife during her husband's illness opened a grocer's shop to assist in supporting the family. The goods were ordered by her. The allegation was made that the defendant had no connection with the business whatever, but a decree for the amount was given.

Recently in the Conrt of Queen's Bench, Dablin, a motion was heard at the suit of Messrs. Duckworth, Manchester, for leave to sign judgment against Messrs. Byrne & Shaw (Limited), chemists, 80 Kevin Street, Dublin, for 14l. 7s., for goods sold and delivered. The Court gave judgment for the amount claimed.

Committal Order Reversed.

In the Queen's Bench Division, Dablin, on November 18 in the case of Messrs. Ayrton & Sannders, wholesale cruggists v. Mr. J. Nugent, chemist, Oroom, co. Limerlck, the Court reversed an order committing defendant to pris: n for | ing the meeting-night was referred to the committee.

non-payment of instalments of a debt, as it was not shown that defendant had the means of paying. Mr. Nngent holds the post of apothecary to the Croom Union at a salary of 701. a year, and was also in business at Croom.

Final Judgment.

In the Queen's Bench Division, Dublin, on November 4, Mr. Stanley Jones, solicitor, Belfast, moved for final judgment on behalf of Grattan & Co., chemists and drnggists, Corn Market, Belfast. The defendant was Mr. J. S. Exham, who resides at Killiney, near Dublin, and the action was brought to recover money due for goods sold and delivered between the years 1894 and 1893. The Court ma2e the order songht.

Bottlers Fined.

In the Southern Police Conrt, Dublin, on November 14, T. Cassels, employed as a bottler in the mineral-water factory of Messrs. O'Brien & Co., was fined 5s., and ordered to pay 3s. costs, for pursuing his occupation without wearing the face protection required by the Factory Act. A similar fine was imposed in the case of Andrew Byrne.

IRISH PHARMACISTS' ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION.

THE opening meeting of the fifth session of this Association was held on October 27, at 8 Eden Quay, Dublin. Mr. W. V. Johnston (Hon. Vice-President) occupied the chair.

The CHAIRMAN said it gave him great pleasure to take

part in the meeting, as although he could no longer call himself one of the rank-and-file his sympathies were ever with them. The SECRETARY then read his report for the session ending September 30, 1899.

THE SECRETARY'S REPORT

stated that the session commenced early in November, 1898, the attendance being all that could be desired; but although a goodly number of new members were elected the attendance during the latter part was much ont of proportion to the members on the books. As a reason for this it has been put forward that Friday night is not a suitable one: it is snggested that the committee should consider the desirability of at least changing the night of meeting to every alternate Tnesday and Friday.

An employment agency was started at the commence-ment of last session, but the lack of suitable rooms to which letters could be sent considerably hampered its usefulness; this difficulty has now been overcome, and it is hoped that the agency will be of considerable use to members and

employers.

The report concluded by referring to the Association's difference with the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, and by asking members to support the Association by contributing papers or notes on subjects of interest.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The TREASURER then read the statement of accounts for the past year. The report showed that the total receipts for the year 1898-99 amounted to 60l.~3s.~5d, making, with a balance in hand at the commencement of the session, 69l. 13s. 11d. The expenses amounted to £4l. 0s. 11d., leaving a balance in hand of 15l. 13s. A loss of 3l. 3s. on the dance and supper was more than balanced by the profit of 31. 8s. 9d. yielded by the concerts.

Mr. O'SULLIVAN moved the adoption of the report, and said some of the social meetings were not a success financially, but they were even prepared to hold them at a slight loss as long as they were socially successful. The report

was carried.

ELECTIONS.

The following new members were then elected:—Miss Smyth, Messrs. Scott, McIntyre, Martin, Holloway, Blair, Wilson, Kefausse, Anderson, McTrane, Lynch, and Kingland.

Mr. Hunt was re-elected President, Mr. J. T. Tnrner was elected Vice-President, Mr. Jessop Secretary, and Mr. Williams Assistant-Secretary. Mr. R. J. Savage was also appointed Treasurer.

After discussion, the question of the advicability of alter-

news of the Month.

Analysts' Appointments.

Mr. Barklie, has also been appointed analyst for Newtownards Union at a salary of 201. per annum.

Sir Charles Cameron, Dublin, has been appointed analyst to the Cookstown Union and the Mount Mellick Union.

The Local Government Board have sanctioned the apappointment of Mr. Blake, F.I.C., Belfast, as analyst to the Antrim Union.

At the meeting of the Fermoragh County Council on November 3 a letter was read from the Local Government Board drawing attention to the section of the Food and Drugs Act which enacts that a county analyst cannot be removed without their sanction. Advertisements had heen issned for the position of county analyst at a salary of 30l. a year, and there were several applications. Mr. Barklie, Belfast, was appointed by a large majority.

Business Changes.

Mr. Stewart, L.P.S.I., Ormeau Road, Belfast, has opened a medical hall at 4 Dublin Road, near to Shaftesbury Square, Belfast.

Mr. Morgan M. D'Arcy, M.P.S.I., Tipperary and Cahir, has opened an hotel and restaurant on the premises attached to his business at Kickham Place, Tipperary.

New drug businesses have been opened at Bloomfield Avenue, Belfast, by Mr. George Hamilton, R.D., and by Mr. W. H. Combe, R.D., at 42 Monntpottinger Road, Belfast.

Mr. John A. Woodside, L.P.S.I., of Messrs. Bonnar, Henderson & Woodside, chemists, Ballymena, has taken over the business of Mr. J. Sweny, druggist, Church Street, Ballymena, having bought the fittings and stock at the auction recently.

The stock, fixtures, &c., of the estate of Mc. J. Edgar, chemist, Dromore, co. Down, have heen bought by Mr. Joseph Douglass, Eden, Carrickfergus, late with Messrs. J. Watson & Co., wholesale druggists, Belfast. Mr. Douglass has transferred them to Carrickfergus.

Mr. Samuel Suffern, registered druggist, Shankhill Road, Belfast, has now removed into new premises a few doors on the same side of the street. The premises were burned down while Mr. Suffern was removing into them, and considerable damage done to the stock, the premises having to be rebuilt.

Contracts.

Messrs. Thacker & Hoffe, Dublin, and Harrington & Sons, Cork, have been appointed contractors for the supply of surgical appliances and medicines respectively to the Olonakilty Board of Guardians.

The tender of Messrs. Leslie & Co. (Limited), Dublin, for the snpply of drugs and medical appliances at a reduction of 50 and 40 per cent. respectively off the official price-list, has been accepted by the Kilrush (Clare) Board of Guardians.

At a meeting of the Mallow Board of Guardians it was resolved to accept the tender of the Cork Chemical requisite Company for the supply of medicines at 50 per cent. off the list-price; and that of Messrs. Harrington & Son, Cork, for the supply of snrgical instruments.

Messrs. J. Clarke & Co. (Limited), chemists and drnggists, Belfast, have been appointed contractors for the supply of medicines to the Abheyleix Union at 50 per cent. off the list-prices. The contract for medical and surgical appliances to the same Union has been given to Messrs. Smith & Sheppard, Dublin, at a reduction of 35 per cent. off the Local Government list.

Personal.

Mr. J. S. Ashe, M P.S.I., has been awarded first prize, consisting of a cheque for 3l. and a silver medal, by the examiners of the Royal College of Surgeons for materia medica.

Dr. Hugh Ryan has been appointed professor of chemistry to the Cecilia Street Schools and Fellow and examiner to

the Royal University, at a salary of 800% a year. Dr. Ryan is on the snnny side of 30.

Dr. James C. McWalter, M.P.S.I., proprietor of Leonard's Medical Halls, Dublin, has passed Part 1 of the examination of the Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons for the Conjoint Diploma in Public Health.

Mr. Samuel Martin, L.P.S I., has heen appointed by Messrs. John Clarke & Co. (Limited), Belfast, manager of the "Branch," Glover's Alley, Stephen's Green, Dublin. Mr. Warren, late of the Apothecaries' Hall, Dublin, acts as town representative.

Presentations.

The employes of the firm of Messrs. John Clarke & Co. (Limited), chemists and druggists, Belfast, met at Ye Olde Castle Restaurant on November 4, and, after a dinner, presented Mr. Alfred Dornan, city representative of the firm, with an illuminated address, marble clock, and ornaments, on the occasion of his marriage. Mr. Maxwell Thompson presided, and Mr. Evans, Secretary to the firm, handed a substantial cheque to Mr. Dornan, the gift of Messrs. Clarke & Co. Mr. Dornan suitably responded.

Mr. Joseph Donglass, of Messrs John Watson & Co., whole-sale druggists, Belfast, was entertained by the staff at a dinner in St. George's Café, and presented with an address which spoke of the high esteem in which he was held hy the rest of his fellow-workers. Mr. John Watson, principal of the firm, occupied the chair on the occasion, and added his testimony and paid a high tribute to the ability and close attention displayed by Mr. Donglass from the time he had entered the warehouse as an apprentice. A varied programme was afterwards gone through.

Prussic acid Poisoning.

On November 18 an inquest was held at Dablin on the hody of a man named Grace, who died from prussic-acid poisoning. Mr. J. Kelly, veterinary surgeon, said deceased was a stableman in his employ, and the prussic acid was his property. He thought the bottle contained about $7\frac{1}{2}$ dr. of the acid, and that $\frac{1}{2}$ dr. of it would kill nearly anything. Other evidence was taken, and the jury returned a verdict of poisoning by prussic acid whilst infane.

Fire.

At Nenagh, on November 9, the premises of Messrs. Hodgins & Co., drug-merchants, Castle Street, were totally destroyed by fire. The damage is estimated at 15,000%. The fire was not got noder for twenty-four hours after it broke out, and an entire block of buildings was gutted.

Award for Damages.

Messrs. Maxwell, Greer & Co., chemists and druggists, Foyle Street, Londonderry lodged a claim for 34. with the Clerk of the Crown and Peace as compensation under the Malicious Injuries Act for damage done to their shopwindow during the recent disturbances in the city. The Recorder has awarded 171. 10s.

Strychnine Poisoning.

At the inquest on the body of Mr. L. P. Lapsley, managing clerk to a solicitor of Dromore, who (on being dismissed hy his employer for continued intemperate habits) took a dose of strychnine, the evidence showed that deceased did not sign the poison-book, but merely "touched the pen," Mr. W. J. Weir, druggist, said deceased came in on Novemher 1 and asked for 3d. worth of strychnine, saying he wanted it for rats. He was given 10 gr., which he paid for. "I asked him to sign his name in the book; he said he wonld just touch the pen. I swear that is his mark." He never got any poison before, and was perfectly sober at the time. Witness did not know why he would not sign his name. He told him to be very careful, as strychnine was a very dangerous poison. It was pure strychnine. He did not think it strange that a solicitor's clerk would only make his mark—it was often done. He sold strychnine every few days, but if asked for poison for vermin he gave phosphorus. It was not customary for a person to ask him to touch the pen if he did not know him. A verdict of death by strychnine self-administered was returned.

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